

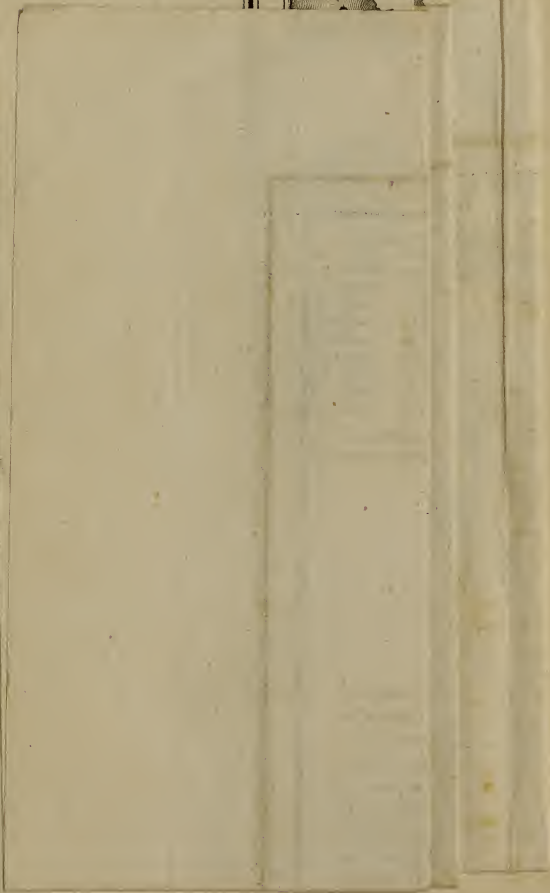
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HINTS
ON
EMIGRATION
TO
UPPER CANADA;
ESPECIALLY ADDRESSED TO THE MIDDLE AND
LOWER CLASSES
IN
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

BY MARTIN DOYLE,
AUTHOR OF HINTS TO SMALL HOLDERS,
&c. &c. &c.

THIRD EDITION, CORRECTED.

DUBLIN:
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1834.

THE HISTORY OF THE

ROYAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND

FROM ITS ORIGIN TO THE PRESENT TIME

BY JOHN S. FOLDS, ESQ.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

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PREFACE.

The first and second editions of these Hints (each comprising 5,000 copies,) having been disposed of by sale, I am induced to offer a *third* to the Public, with a few prefatory remarks, in reply to objections which have been urged by persons for whose opinions I entertain sentiments of sincere respect.

These objections are to the following purport:

1. That the Population of Ireland, compared with her extent and resources, is by no means excessive.

2. That disappointment and misery are often the portion of the Emigrant, on reaching our North American Colonies.

3. That the most valuable of our agriculturists are those who leave our shores—abstracting their capital, whatever it may be, from a country where it is so much required, and in which a profitable investment of it might be made on advantageous locations.

4. That the tendency to Emigration is so great as to require no stimulus.

To these assertions I shall endeavour to reply.

1. I must readily admit now, what I have more than once observed in addressing my countrymen, that, compared with the extent and resources of Ireland, if *under an improved*

system of agriculture, our population is not in any degree redundant; but until I perceive a nearer prospect of developing the resources of the country in such a manner as to insure remunerating and productive employment—until I see Cottage Husbandry prevailing every where under the superintendence and fostering care of beneficent and resident landlords,—until I see inducements to exertion held out to the labouring poor, in the increase of moderate comforts,—until I see on the parts of the landlords generally, some marked distinction made between the industrious and the idle, the provident and the wasteful, the honest man and the rogue, the peaceable and the turbulent,—until I cease to witness neglect, privation, and their necessary result, wretchedness, around me, I must assert, that, compared with the actual condition of this country, and the means available to adequate employment, the market of labour is overstocked, and the wages of that labour insufficient.

When the peasantry of any country are reduced to live on the least possible quantity of food, and that often of the worst description, and when I know that the wretchedness which is daily witnessed among our labouring classes is not likely to be remedied, I cannot but indulge the hope, that he who informs them of a country where industry, health, and frugality, are sure to preserve at least comfortable independence, and who at the same time warns them against the errors they might fall into in its pursuit, and points out the advantages to which they may attain by Emigration, may justly be considered as their benefactor.

2. As to the second objection, a very brief answer will suffice.

It is to prevent the disappointment and wretchedness complained of, which in many instances the Emigrant has encountered by being unable to reach Upper Canada from want of the necessary funds, that I have especially written this tract. By going out at the instance of an unfeeling and selfish landlord, without a shilling in his pocket beyond the mere expense of landing him, and being consequently unable to reach to Upper Canada, where a demand for profitable labour awaits him, the Emigrant too often has been dependent on the charity afforded by the benevolent Societies formed for the relief of destitute Emigrants, at Quebec, New York, and Montreal. If he reads these Hints, and has forty shillings in his pocket on landing, he will know, if he be not idle, drunken, or infirm, (and where would a poor man find the means of living under such circumstances,) how to escape disappointment and wretchedness.

3. The third objection is a serious one.

If the great body of our Irish landed proprietors (some of whom are all that philanthropy could desire) would alter their too frequent practice of setting to the highest bidder, without regard to character; and when colonizing their estates, select those who, from education, orderly and industrious habits, and moral worth, would be creditable and trust-worthy tenants; if they would superintend their estates, as they ought to do, and give up the pursuit of mere selfish gratifications, to advance the general prosperity; if they would seek something more than the

abstraction of money from their tenantry; if they would not evict them from their lands because they will not pay rack rents to those who greedily accept the offers of less solvent, less respectable, and less honest men—if our landlords will do all this, and encourage those excellent families which are now meditating their departure from our shores, neither the strong necessity nor the desire for Emigration will prevail among them; they and their capital may be thus kept at home. How long will it be, alas! before such a change shall have a general effect? But until the landlords, one and all, exert themselves, and until the political horizon assume a brighter aspect,—until the ever restless sea of *agitation* subside, (if it may be God's mercy to avert the storms which have been so industriously excited by the sinfulness of man,) I cannot in my conscience say, "Do not go," to the peaceable and industrious father of a family, anxious to leave the waters of national strife, and to trust himself to the less terrifying billows of the ocean, to be wafted on their bosom from the land of his forefathers. I cannot say, "Do not go—wait for the chance of better times; perhaps the glory of England is not about to set for ever; perhaps our Demagogues may cease to trouble us, to endanger our lives, our liberties, our means of living." How could I conscientiously hold out hopes so fallacious, counsel so deceitful?

4. The tendency to Emigration requires no stimulus—no—*but* it requires proper direction, and if I have been to blame, it has been in my anxious endeavour to supply it.

M. D.

HINTS ON EMIGRATION

TO

UPPER CANADA.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,

Your old acquaintance MARTIN presents himself again to you, in his original character of a sincere adviser, the more willingly as he knows that many of you have observed his former *Hints* with advantage to yourselves, but grievously aware also, that too, too many who have not been able or disposed to follow them, are sunk more and more in wretchedness—sufferers under famine and disease—or instruments and victims of lawless depredation.

Many, however, to avoid these dreadful emergencies, have lately sought in emigration a prudent remedy against the evils which hung over them, and multitudes of relatives and neighbours only await a favourable report to follow their example.

When I speak of this to you as a *prudent* remedy, you may be sure that I approve and recommend the measure. Do not, however, imagine that I want to get rid of my old friends; crack-brained and im-

provident as you, my *Irish* ones, are, "I will love you still," and will serve you to the best of my power, and that I am doing so, at this very moment that I write, you will hereafter acknowledge.

I do not want to strip the country of its population—the landlords of their tenantry—or the snug farmer of his comfortable subsistence, by urging any wild and doubtful speculation. I am for letting "well enough alone," or if it is to be bettered, let it be at *home*; but I am very desirous to rescue from overwhelming distress, those who struggle without succeeding, paupers in every thing but in health and strength, in able bodies and willing minds. A field is now open to such adventurers, and I would, from my heart, exhort them to try it.

It is not that I am tired of you, but that I wish you well; it is not that I am affronted because many of my *countrymen* (in particular) have not minded my hints on wholesomeness and cleanliness, going on still with the old wig or stocking in the broken window; but it is that I would wish you to be where bodily strength will earn you bodily nourishment in abundance for yourselves and families, and where an industrious offspring may rise by degrees, in affluence and comfort, to the possession of *a bit of an estate*, to be handed down, with tenements, stock, &c. to a succeeding generation.

And though I would not advise the *prosperous* farmer or artizan to relinquish the advantages and comforts of his home, yet as those who contemplate the subject of emigration are probably the best judges of their own private views and circumstances, I shall try to suit to various classes the information which the following pages will contain, and which I have sought out for you, my humbler friends, with great industry, and now place before you, purely for the purpose of serving you, by guiding you to UPPER CANADA, by explaining to you its circumstances and advantages, and by guarding you against the

blunder you might otherwise commit, by settling in the *States*, or in other parts of America.

With this sole object, I have prepared the following sheets for your guidance and information, assuring you, at the same time, whether at home or abroad, of the kindest good wishes and heartiest good will of your disinterested adviser,

MARTIN DOYLE.

Ballyorley, December 1833.

THE CANADAS.

Under the name of Upper and Lower Canada is comprehended a vast extent of country, opening a wide and happy field of occupation for those inhabitants of the British Isles to whom want of employment and contracted means render their own country unsatisfactory.

To persons thus circumstanced, emigration naturally occurs as a measure of relief—a measure hitherto embarrassed with cost and difficulty, uncertainty and delay, acting as obstacles to its adoption, but *now* assuming a more attractive form, and recommending itself to all the honest and industrious classes, especially to the labouring and unoccupied poor, who experience insurmountable difficulties at home, but by carrying with them moral principles and habits, may, in another country, lay the foundation of a thriving nation, and have reason to bless God that they have been driven, as it were, from

long continued struggles and distress into the possession of such profitable sources of present independence and future affluence.

This is a subject for the deep and anxious consideration of Great Britain, whose interest it is to provide consumers for her manufactures.—The poor at home cannot afford to become purchasers, but by locating themselves in the British Colonies abroad they soon acquire such capital as enables them to consume the various articles of export, and thus to contribute not only towards the increased employment of the manufacturers of England, but of the various classes of shipbuilders, provision merchants, sailors, &c. engaged in conveying manufactures to the Colonies. And as to Ireland, where, though purely agricultural, her population exceeds the power of employment, it is an obvious advantage to occupy the overplus of *her* people also, in those more distant tracts which invite the notice of the husbandman, and allure him by their fertility.

When I see so many unemployed and destitute persons with dependent families, hardy and industrious, willing to work, yet unable to procure employment, I cannot help thinking that it is an act of kindness to point out to them a place where a man's industry is sure of full remuneration, where toil is recompensed to a degree which circumstances render utterly unattainable in these countries, and where he may easily acquire capital and independence.—I would not advise others to do what under the same circumstances I would not most willingly do myself, and what I am not by any means sure that I shall not yet do, conceiving that the tempting project of emigration comes at this moment recommended by various inducements to more than the lower classes, holding out a fair promise and prospect of relief from embarrassment at home, political and pecuniary. I do not, indeed, want to get rid of you, but I want you to have a happy home in another portion of the world, if you have it not here, where

the idle and distressed are always rendered the tools of the designing and the crafty.

To those who are favoured with steady employment at home, who possess allotments of land, however small, which furnish them with comfortable subsistence, I say, "Be contented—make no experiments—remain where you are—and trust that a kind Providence will bring order and peace out of the present confusion and discord which distract these realms."

But to those differently circumstanced, Emigration is most desirable; and perhaps no country in the world is more critically suited than North America to the *Irish* and *Scotch* poor in particular: the very place of all others where those who have not a shilling in their pockets, and who are accustomed to vicissitudes of climate and hard work, can live best; where all those who have been bred to farm and handicraft work, *if industrious, healthy, and sober*, have a moral certainty of succeeding. All such persons, after two years, find themselves in a thriving condition, and are anxious to have their *old country* friends with them; but mere adventurers—broken-down tradesmen, and scheming shopkeepers, may just as well stay and starve quietly at home—such persons would not prosper any where.

Nor is North America suited to ladies and gentlemen of *very small* means, who are unused to do any thing for themselves; such persons are in general too tenderly reared, too delicately brought up, to dispense with the services of domestics, whom they could not afford to pay in a country where a good pair of hands is worth much, and who are unable or unwilling to bear the privations of the first two or three years of settlement in the woods: though instances are not wanted of respectable families, with incomes varying from £50 to £200 a year, living most happily and prosperously, and *enjoying good society* there; but these persons are generally the families of naval or military gentlemen accustomed to *rough it*,

habituated to discipline and self controul, and possessed of adequate zeal and energy.

In comparing together the relative advantages and disadvantages which attend a settlement in North America, I am disposed, after a very grave consideration, to yield a decided preference to UPPER CANADA, and I shall give you my reasons. First, as to the United States:

So long a period has elapsed since these were colonized from the British Isles, that we have, in a great degree, lost the feeling that they are of a common stock with ourselves; but in the Canadas we meet thousands of our countrymen with all the feelings, habits, tastes, of British subjects, living under the protection of British laws, and having all the privileges of commerce which are possessed by us. In short, there is a strong and intimate bond of union between the Parent Country and the Colonies; but if ever again we should be so unfortunate as to be driven into wars with the States, the new settlers there, from the British dominions, would be placed in a most painful situation—obliged either to take arms against their relatives from these countries, or remaining neuter (an unlikely matter in time of war) to risk the ruin of their properties by the Americans, whom they would not assist, on the one side, and the British, who would confound them with the Americans, on the other. And he who is not a sworn subject of the States cannot inherit property, and would be looked upon, if he did not take the oath of allegiance, with a very jealous eye—he would be considered, “neither good fish nor good flesh.” Besides, I really believe that the Canadas are more healthy than any of the States. Even that of Ohio, on the north western boundary, is not so temperate and healthy as the parts of Canada adjoining. In many of the States of America, *slavery* still continues; what native of these free islands would endure the sight of it? Then with respect to the British

Settlements at Nova Scotia and New Brunswick—they are too near the Atlantic—quite too cold in winter—I do not like them.

Well then, I have made up my mind that the Canadas are superior in climate and other circumstances to all other parts of North America; it only remains for me to state the advantages which the *upper* province possesses over the *lower*.

In the lower one, the heat of summer and the cold of winter is excessive; fogs prevail there, especially towards the sea; the soil is not so good, and land is dearer—no trifling consideration to those whom want of property at home induces to seek it there. Mr. Ferguson (a most interesting writer on the agricultural state of Canada and part of the United States) mentions that “he had an opportunity of seeing and conversing with several British Emigrants, who advised him to look at the Upper Province, before he formed an opinion upon the eligibility* of a settlement.”

The lower province is two or three degrees more northerly† in latitude, and therefore invariably colder in the winter—so much so that employment then, in a great degree, ceases; the severity of that season which freezes up the rivers, even the vast St. Lawrence, prohibits the transport of timber, puts a stop to trade, and throws out of work those whose pursuits are confined to it, unless with the serious danger of losing a nose, or the extremities of the hands and feet, from cold; the agriculturist is frequently unable to work in the woods; and its contiguity to the Atlantic renders it, like New England and New Brunswick, liable to vapours which are productive

* See Quarterly Journal of Agriculture, No. 15.

† See Table of Temperature (from Col. Fouchette's Work) in the Appendix.

of agues and other complaints; its population also being, in a great degree, of French and other foreign origin, this province is not as likely to continue in firm political connexion (and consequent security and strength) with the British government, as is the Upper Canada, of which the most desirable settlements (those in the Huron Territory) are 700 miles distant from Quebec, and of course still farther from the Western Ocean; and so much is the climate ameliorated by the clearing of lands, and the cultivation of the soil, that the farmers, in some of the improved districts, are said to apprehend that there will not be a sufficiency of snow to permit the making of good winter roads for the carriage of their timber to the saw-mill, or to the rivers or lakes for exportation.

The summer in Upper Canada is hotter than ours, but brisk and pleasant from refreshing breezes; the winter sharp but dry, bracing, and invigorating, and on the whole you would suppose it much more agreeable than our winter, in which we have so much *cold dampness*, which is more unpleasant and trying to the constitution than a *greater degree of cold* prevailing in a *dry* frosty air. From the end of August to November, the weather is delicious; October is there the most delightful month in the year, after which commences what is termed the *Indian summer*, of most agreeable temperature.

There are, however, in the other months, sudden and decisive changes from heat to cold, and thunder showers in spring are not unfrequent; but a defective corn crop, from deficiency of heat, or the prevalence of rain, is never heard of. In winter the cold is scarcely ever such as to prevent out of door labour.—Rain seldom falls in that season, and as there are not then the variations of weather experienced in England, colds, and the other disorders which arise from those changes, and especially from *wetness*, do not prevail there. A clear frosty air and

bright sun continue during the winter, which sets in about Christmas.

Spring (or rather summer, for the one treads quickly upon the heels of the other,) puts forth her freshness and her beauty often at an early part of April, yet sometimes exhibits a frosty tint even in May, or for an occasional night in the opening of June—just as with us in these temperate regions—but on the whole, the climate of Upper Canada is much less variable than ours, and has fewer unpleasant days in those seasons when bad weather is peculiarly unwelcome and unguarded against.

In a report laid before a Select Committee of the House of Commons, in the year 1823, by an agent of the British Government, the following statement was made as to the climate of Upper Canada:—

“The climate of Upper Canada is considerably milder than that of the Lower Province, and the winter shorter in the same proportion. In both these respects it improves as you proceed westward, so much so, that although the frost generally commences in November at its eastern extremity, and continues in that neighbourhood till the middle of April, it rarely commences on the shores of Lake Erie before Christmas, and it usually disappears between the 25th of March and the 1st of April.

“On a comparison with the climate of Great Britain, the heat in the summer months is somewhat greater, but never oppressive, as it is always accompanied with light breezes. There is less rain than in England, but it falls at more regular periods, generally in the spring and autumn. The winter cold, though it exceeds that of the British Isles, is the less sensibly felt, in consequence of its dryness, and seldom continues intense for more than three days together, owing to the constant fluctuation of the wind between the north-west and south-west points. It may be observed, that the winter season is the most favourable to land carriage, as the roads then admit of sledging in all directions, which is a

very expeditious mode of conveyance, and attended with but little draft; so that one horse or ox can in this manner easily draw double what he can upon wheels. It is hardly necessary to state, that in a country so overspread with timber, there can never be a deficiency of fuel. As the forests disappear, the climate improves."

The farther you go westward, the better the climate becomes. In the neighbourhood of Lake Ontario the winter is comparatively mild, and in summer the air is cooled by the refreshing breezes which blow over its surface; from the same causes a similar mildness of the seasons takes place in the vicinity of the other great lakes.

Taking it for granted that the circumstances which I have mentioned are sufficient to establish the fact that *Upper Canada* is your best destination, I shall class under their several heads, every matter which it is necessary for you to be familiar with, before you set off (as I believe many thousands of you will, in the next spring,) for that land of peace and plenty. Nor will it be out of place here, as a conclusion to these few general observations, to give the following short extract from a *New York* paper, which is an honorable and pleasing testimony from a rival district:—

"The people of Upper Canada are blessed with a fine healthy climate and fruitful soil. When the improvements in navigation between the waters of Erie and the St. Lawrence are completed, they will possess commercial advantages superior (having respect to their population) to any people under heaven. Their importations being chiefly from the mother country, are subjected only to a slight duty; the support of the provincial government, or such part of it as is derived from the pockets of the people, is not burthensome," (the taxes are so trifling as not to deserve any notice) "and the expense of the fortification and defence of the country comes exclusively from the Parent State."

To this encomium, as true as it is liberal, may be added the striking fact, that farming produce in Upper Canada brings a price considerably better than in the States, where land is dearer and taxes higher; which is fully evinced in the late purchases of land within that province, especially in the Huron Territory, by the Americans who have left the States to avail themselves of this advantageous settlement.

It is to be hoped that they will not bring with them, so as to be injurious to the principles of British settlers, that extreme spirit of democracy, which, either in a public or domestic point of view, cannot fail to be attended with unpleasant circumstances.

Settlers from this country, accustomed to subordination, must be disgusted at that terrible independence which makes the son conceive himself beyond the controul of parental authority, and in all situations, impresses even those who have not arrived at years of discretion, and perhaps never may, with an overweening confidence in their own sense and judgment.

UPPER CANADA,

Considered with reference to Extent—Facilities of Water-Carriage—and Soil.

The portion of Upper Canada divided into lots and available to settlers, extends from Lancaster on the north-east, to Amherstburgh and the Michigan territory on the south-west; at the upper extremity of Lake Erie, a distance of 543 miles, its mean breadth being about 130 miles, divided first into districts, which are subdivided into counties, and again into townships of ten miles square, each containing about 64,000 English acres. This great tract contains a surface of 45,000,000 acres, of which 18 millions are under rivers and lakes, of such a size as to awaken astonishment in the human mind.

The rivers and canals run in every direction, intersecting the country so as to afford all the facilities of cheap and easy intercourse with the different portions of it, and with the sea, there being an uninterrupted conveyance by water between the western extremities and Quebec.

The names of the great lakes, (beginning at the western boundary,) are the Huron, (246 miles in length, and 220 in breadth,) which is connected, by the river St. Clair, with the lake of the same name. This again is connected by the Detroit river with lake Erie, which runs a course of 270 miles—at the eastern end of this lake are the great Falls of Niagara, which I must describe to you.

Four mighty lakes combine to supply this remarkable cataract—Lake Erie, more than 600 miles round—The Huron, 1000—The Michigan, not far inferior in size—and lake Superior, which is 1500 miles in circumference—unite their “multitude of waters,” and rush impetuously down this tremendous fall of 137 feet.

Some idea of the amazing force with which this mass of water is precipitated over the rocks, may be formed from the well known fact, that the noise is heard under favorable circumstances, at the distance of 45 miles. The rapidity of the torrent in approaching the fall, and the violence with which it rolls and tumbles through the projecting cliffs, may also be in some degree estimated from the circumstance, that geese, ducks, and other water-fowl, if they do not quit the surface above, before they come near the precipice, have not then the power to rise upon the wing, but are hurried down and killed in the descent.

These are circumstances of terror, which I have *described* but not *exaggerated*, to prepare my own countrymen for something more than the Falls of Leixlip, or Powerscourt, Colooney, or Ballyshannon. The sublime and beautiful of the scenery, (and nothing more sublime or beautiful exists,) I leave to your respective tastes for the *picturesque*; and if you

happen not to possess any, it will by no means interfere with the laudable objects of emigration.

You may in this case view Niagara, not as an object of wonder or admiration, but as an impediment and interruption to your line of sailing, as a bar in your progress westwards, from lake Ontario to lake Erie—occasioning trouble, time, and expense, in carrying goods and passengers over land, from one vessel below the Falls to another above them. But happily this obstacle has been surmounted. If you look upon the map prefixed to this little tract, you will see that the Welland canal forms a link of connexion between the lakes. Niagara is no longer to be viewed as an impediment—but as one of the grandest works of the Almighty; well worth the trouble and difficulties of a voyage to America to behold, even if there were no other matter in view. Ontario, as you will also see by a reference to the map, flows to the sea, by the noble river St. Lawrence, which passing the great and thriving town of Montreal on the boundaries of the two provinces, (though at present belonging to the lower one,) holds its majestic course to Quebec, and after widening at length to the prodigious breadth of 90 miles, unites its waters with those of the vast Atlantic.

What a country will this yet become! Its free navigation, from the remotest parts of the interior to the Ocean, commanding the export of the finest wheat the world produces; timber of the best descriptions, and all the other produce which the industry of man can raise in this most fertile region.

The rise and fall of nations and of empires are under the control of infinite wisdom. If with the new settlers, religious and moral habits be introduced, it may please that Mighty Power, whose impartial judgment decides on ruin or prosperity, to use this secondary cause of Emigration as the great instrument of rewarding individual merit, and raising up to a commanding eminence this once savage and benighted country, through the light of truth and the

blessings of civilization. And it must naturally occur to the well-disposed Settler, that though his lot may perchance *for a short time*,* be cast beyond the reach of *regular* religious instruction, yet that the good Christian has always a *Friend above*, to whose willing ear he may address himself; nor will the anxious parent pass over without thankfulness, the blessing of comparative solitude, if it shall have removed the objects of his affection from demoralizing scenes of bad example, and placed them where the good result of religious exercise will not be defaced by "evil communications," and where a patriarchal life of faith and holiness, with industrious self-exertion, cannot fail (under God's blessing) to produce prosperity and happiness.

But to proceed with my details. There are various other lakes, which have not been mentioned—lake Simcoe, and many others on the northern side of lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence, which will, at no very remote period it is probable, be connected by canals with each other and with the Ocean. One great water-course is now almost completed from Kingston, at the eastern extremity of Ontario, 133 miles in a northerly direction, consisting of a chain of lakes joined by canal work, which unites them with the Grand or Ottawa river, so as to avoid the navigation of the St. Lawrence from thence to Montreal, that portion of it being full of dangerous and

* It is very lamentable that the funds of the Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts have been so much diminished by the withdrawal of Parliamentary funds. There is a deplorable want of the ministers of religion in many districts. I understand from good authority that a considerable number of Clergymen of the Established Church are wanted in Upper Canada. £100 a year salary, and 200 acres of Glebe (50 of them cleared) with a log-house, may be obtained by application to the Governor. The happiest results will follow from a selection of zealous and able ministers. It is to be hoped that no *drones* will be admitted to the sacred office.

troublesome rapids. The Ottawa meets the St. Lawrence a few miles above Montreal, from which place to the Ocean there is an uninterrupted sea navigation; this canal lengthens the distance from Montreal to Ontario very considerably; but the saving in *time* and expense will be very great indeed—and should wars unhappily occur with the States, it secures a free intercourse between Quebec, through Montreal, to the Upper Province, which might otherwise be frequently interrupted by the Americans, who possess one side of the St. Lawrence. In time of war, such a passage could not be thought of—without this canal you could not feel security—with it you have the certainty, at all times, and under all circumstances, of communication with Quebec, and consequently with your native country.

From Upper Canada, the colonists can send their timber and corn either to Montreal, by the lakes, &c. (the course of which I have already pointed out,) or by the Erie Canal to New York; having *two* great outlets for the productions of their lands, and for the return of purchased articles—clothes, furniture, implements, &c. &c. they can, according to the rates of freight, and comparative state of sales at Montreal, Quebec, or New York, select the most advantageous market.

With regard to the soil—From the authority before quoted, in page 15, we have these observations:

“Upper Canada is blessed with as productive soil as any in the world, and it is easily brought into cultivation. The nature of the soil may be invariably discovered by the description of timber it bears. Thus on what is called hard timbered land, where the maple, beech, black birch, ash, cherry, lime, elm, oak, black walnut, butter-nut, hickory, plane, and tulip tree, &c. are found, the soil consists of a deep black loam. Where the fir and hemlock pine are intermixed in any considerable proportion with other trees, clay predominates; but where they grow alone, which is generally on elevated situations, sand pre-

vails. This also happens where the oak and chesnut are the only trees. These sandy soils, though naturally unfavourable to meadow and pasture, are found to produce the brightest and heaviest wheats, and can, with the assistance of a gypsum, which abounds in many parts of the province, be made to bear the finest possible crops of clover and Indian corn; and as a compensation for their inferiority of natural quality, fever and ague do not prevail in their neighbourhood. In moist seasons the clays furnish the greatest burthen of grass. Perhaps there does not exist in any quarter of the globe, a country of the extent of Upper Canada, containing so small a quantity of waste land, either of marsh or mountain, yet there is not any deficiency of water; for independently of the numerous rivers and streams which flow through the country on every side, good springs are universally found either on the surface or by digging for them.

The country is generally level, and covered with timber. Every description of soil can be had, so that the settler has it in his power to choose the description which he likes best; but unless he is an infallible judge of the qualities of land, I recommend his taking one who is perfectly so, along with him, when about to make his selection; nor should he be in haste to fix himself; he will find his account *in acting with caution, and examining well the different farms which will be offered to him, before he makes his selection.* The surface is composed of a rich coat of vegetable mould, the deposit of decayed leaves, and wood from unnumbered ages, which when tilled, yields several successive crops of great luxuriancy, without manure.

In many places are to be met, but not frequently upon the banks of the lakes and rivers, but at a distance of a few miles, as if to encourage the settler to plunge into the forest, extensive tracts of rich and heavy soil, and beyond these, rise in beautiful eleva-

vations, portions of land the most tempting in their situations.

This excellent soil is, however, very unfairly treated, by being kept under an unceasing succession of corn crops without manure, and any land so treated, however naturally fertile, must be at length impoverished. There is less marshy or swampy land, it has been just now said, for its extent in Upper Canada than in any other part of the world; there *are*, however, *some* low and swampy grounds, and these, until the progress of population and improvement shall make it worth while to drain them, are the only situations from which I warn you to keep clear, while high and dry land, prudently chosen, near the lakes or rivers, can be purchased *out and out*—in *fee*, as it is termed—for such a trifle as ten shillings an acre!!

Just fancy yourselves possessed of *real property* on such terms—no yearly tenancy—no terminable leases to breed *interminable* jealousies at the change of occupants—but pure fee simple—no rent to pay—*landed proprietors*—*estated gentlemen!!!* After labouring here for a shilling, or ten pence, or eight pence, or six pence a day, and receiving even this perhaps in the shape of a receipt for rack-rent!! what a happy change would this be, and how irresistible the temptation to make the experiment! And only think of the advantage of working a rich maiden soil, that will yield abundantly, instead of ploughing or digging a worn out one at home, without manure to *mend* it, and which, without abundance of it, will not yield a crop sufficient to pay its labour.

In trying the new country, and the fresh soil, mind to fix yourselves near water carriage. I myself should prefer the banks of Lake Ontario, but there are excellent quarters about Lake Huron, where the soil is said to be admirable; in either of these districts you can procure lots of land, of sand, loam, or clay—please yourselves—no compulsion to buy

one lot, if you like another better. The soil in the Huron Territory is a rich sandy loam—suited to the culture of Tobacco, of which much is grown there.

THE HURON TERRITORY,—is a tract of 1,100,000 acres, in the shape of a triangle, its base being about sixty miles in length, resting on Lake Huron, and having a direct navigable communication through Lakes Erie and Ontario, with the Atlantic.

The chief Town in this district, called **GODERICH**, is at the confluence of the River Maitland with Lake Huron, which promises, from its local advantages, to become one of the most important and flourishing settlements in the Province.

Several enterprising colonists, attracted by these advantages, have left their farms in the neighbourhood of York, to settle at Goderich, with the intention of erecting a brewery, distillery, brick-kilns, and a grist-mill; a tavern and saw-mill have already been erected. The Harbour, the only one on the Canadian side of the Lake, is capable of containing vessels of the burthen of 200 tons; and it has been established as a Port of Entry, which will insure to the inhabitants a great share of the trade with the Upper Countries, and their opposite neighbours in new settlements in the United States.

The scenery on the river Maitland has been described as more like English than any other in America. There is abundance of brick-earth and potters' clay in every direction round the town.

The establishments at Goderich have been formed principally to afford facilities, encouragement, and protection to Settlers who may be disposed to purchase and improve the adjoining lands.

Roads are in progress, an important preliminary to civilization, which will connect the Huron Tract with Port Talbot and the various settlements and Towns on Lake Erie and the Niagara Frontier. Cattle and provisions can be obtained in abundance by this route, or by the still more easy water com-

munication between Goderich and the old well-cultivated Settlements of Sandwich, Amherstburgh, and Detroit.

A road has also been completed, as before-mentioned, from Goderich, by Wilmot and Guelph, to the head of Lake Ontario and York; and it is intended to improve and maintain all these communications, under the direct inspection of the officers of the Government, so as to make them in every respect equal to the best roads in the oldest settlements in the province.

With respect to the important considerations of climate and soil in the Huron Tract, there is every reason to believe them as the best in Upper Canada; though the district is for the most part level, it is in some places considerably elevated above the Lakes. On the borders of the Detroit and Lake St. Clair there are extensive Prairies, some of which are overflowed at certain seasons, and some years more than others, owing to the periodical rise of the great Lakes, which are said to ebb and flow every seven years.

These Prairies, although not all fit for cultivation, produce great quantities of wild grass, of which those who live in their vicinity avail themselves to raise large herds of cattle, but with little expense and trouble.

Every species of grain is cultivated in the province in the greatest abundance, yielding with very ordinary tillage and without manure, from twenty to twenty-five bushels of wheat to the acre, and in some places, with but little more care, from forty to fifty bushels. It is particularly favorable to the growth of Indian corn or maize, and tobacco, which latter is of the best quality, and bids fair to rival that of Virginia, and to become a staple. It is very productive, yielding with proper care, 1,000lbs. and sometimes more, per acre. Its culture is particularly well adapted to persons possessing small pieces of land, and having large families of young children, who can attend it with more ease than grown persons, at certain stages of its growth. Hemp and hops grow

spontaneously, and the former will probably, at some distant period, become an article of considerable export.

A Surveyor who has been employed to lay out the line of road through the heart of the tract, says, "The quality of the soil through the whole thirty-three miles, is such, that I have not seen its equal in the province; the soil is generally composed of a deep, rich, black loam, thinly timbered. For the purpose of the intended road, there is not one mile in the whole distance otherwise than favourable; and there are four permanent streams, branches of main rivers."

The fertility of this territory, the mildness of its climate, and the facility of purchasing property there, point it out as peculiarly eligible.

I shall conclude this division of the subject with the reports of some intelligent and most respectable persons, who not long ago visited the Huron Territory, and thus express themselves as to its soil and climate.

In regard to the Soil, the most unqualified praise is given by all the exploring party without exception. One of the gentlemen states, "I have already adverted to the nature and fertility of the soil, and I think I may be justified in adding, that such is the general excellence of the land, that if ordinary care be taken to give each lot no more than its own share of any small swamp in its vicinity, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to find 200 acres together in the whole territory which would make a bad farm. Although the land may be capable of raising any kind of produce usual in that country, yet some spots are more peculiarly advantageous for particular crops. For instance, the black ash swales (a kind of swamp) make the best ground for hemp, as, by the scourging effect of two or three crops of it, the ground will be made more fit for the raising of wheat, for which, in the original state, it is too strong. The rich meadows by the side of the rivers, more es-

“pecially such as are annually overflowed, are ready, without further preparation, for tobacco, hemp, and flax. The lower meadows, and meadows adjoining to Beaver dams, which are abundant, produce at this moment enormous quantities of natural hay and pasture; and the rest of the land, for the production of potatoes, Indian corn, wheat, and other grain, is at least equal, if not superior, to any other land in the Canadas. Independent of the swamps, the timber on the land is very soon described. The sugar maple is the principal growth, and the size and height which it, as well as the other trees attain, sufficiently evince the strength and power of the soil; next to this come the beech, elm, and basswood, in various proportions: in some instances the beech and elm predominate over the maple, but this is rare. Near the streams the hemlock* is found, and interspersed through the whole is the cherry, butternut, the different species of oak, and the birch.”

Another gentleman states, “As far as I have explored the territory, and as far as I could learn from the different other explorings, I have to say, my impression is, that there is not a better tract of land, if there is any equal, of the same extent, in the Province of Upper Canada. It is abundantly watered with a variety of streams, which are not like the slow-moving, dull, stagnant ones in some other parts of the Province, but are swift, and in some places rapid, which will tend greatly to the salubrity of the climate, as well as to the other invaluable benefits, when the land becomes settled, from their being suitable for hydraulic purposes. The soil is always judged of by the timber that grows upon it; when that consists of maple, beech, basswood, and cherry, the land is considered very good;

* The *Hemlock* is a species of pine, growing generally in moist or swampy situations, and on soil of inferior quality.

“but if the maple and basswood are the most prevailing, it is considered of superior quality.”

A third says, “In passing through the country, I have found the timber (naming that first of which there is the greatest quantity, and the rest in the same order,) to be maple, elm, beech, and basswood. There are others in less quantity, viz. hemlock, butternut, black ash, white ash, soft maple, white oak, hickory, and pine. The soil in general is a black loam, sometimes with a proportion of sand, the subsoil, clay with a mixtne of sand; there are very few stones, except in the beds of rivers and creeks, and that principally limestone. The banks along the shore of the Lake have rather a forbidden appearance when viewed from the water, being clothed with cedar and hemlock to their bases; but as soon as you arrive at the summit of their slopes, the good land, clothed with the hard timber before mentioned, makes its appearance. In scaling the shore, we took opportunities of going into the interior, and in all cases found the land good.”

Mr. Ferguson, the latest visitor of all those who have published their observations, thus remarks:—
 “I was much impressed with a favourable opinion of the great Huron Tract, from the fact that many steady Dutch settlers, in the possession of old productive farms near York, were at the period of my visit, disposing of their property and removing to Goderich, a change which the calculating Dutchman would not have rashly adopted, without pretty reasonable prospects of bettering himself to a considerable amount. The Township of Goderich contains about 400 inhabitants already, and several Dutch families from the neighbourhood of York have sold, or are endeavouring to sell, their cultivated and valuable farms, and have purchased lands from the Company in the Huron Tract; about 6000 acres have been sold to them in the neighbourhood of Goderich, within the last six months. In Guelph, a very valuable mill has lately been erected, and one in Goderich is now in progress.”

Three gentlemen, (the Messrs. Radcliff) with their

wives and children, went to this territory in the spring of 1832, and they are already comfortable, if not affluent. It is said that they were the first *Whitefeet* that stepped on the township (Adelaide) where they are located. Would that all our *Whitefeet* were at the other side of the Atlantic, but not in Canada, which they would soon disturb!

The Natives.—The Productions of Upper Canada, animal, vegetable, and mineral.

The natives (by which I mean the descendants of the original natives) are a very harmless and gentle race. Their quarrels resemble those of our *women* when tempted by violent temper (which is, however, a wonderfully rare quality in womankind) to attack each other—they scratch—so do the native Americans, who have no notion of fisty cuffs. They love a rambling and unsettled life, and trust to gun, spear, and net, for their means of living. They are wonderfully dexterous in the use of the bow and arrow—can hit a mark with great precision, and frequently obtain game in that way, when unprovided with fowling piece and ammunition; indeed their permanent possession of these, or of any thing valuable, is uncertain, their love of rum and whiskey being so excessive that they barter every thing for those pernicious stimulants: the present enjoyment is every thing to them; so much so, that they often prefer a glass of spirits to a dollar, if that dollar could not be exchanged on the spot, for drams or other intoxicating draughts. They are of rather prepossessing features, though somewhat of the broadest; their eyes of gentle expression, and their manners grave; an inoffensive people, if kindly treated, frequently bringing presents of fruit, game, and fish, perhaps in the hope of some whiskey in return; and if at any time they have received food when hungry, or have been treated with kindness and any other proofs of hospitality, they are very grate-

ful. It is no uncommon thing for an Indian to bring a red deer, salmon, or trout, to the settler who has given him a dinner, a glass of spirits, powder or shot, or any other matter which he may have wanted.

But grateful as he is for kindness, he will resent an injury, real or imagined; policy therefore, as well as humanity, should always secure for him obliging treatment from his happier, or at least more civilized, fellow-creatures.

They are active, well formed people, and would, from their habits of exercise, be probably long lived, but that the use of spirits is making dreadful havoc among them.

Their dress consists of a blanket fastened with a skewer, a pair of buskins (called Mocassins) of pliable leather, instead of shoes, made to fit closely to the foot like a stocking, with a piece of cloth from these Mocassins to the ankle, stitched on, as these are not removed so long as they can hold together. Their habits are often abstemious, but only so from necessity, for though they can bear hunger for a long time without complaining, they will eat voraciously when ever they can, and get drunk on every favourable opportunity. Now if such creatures as these, hating labour and loving idleness, can obtain subsistence from the woods and rivers, in their hours of sport, it is very clear that an industrious settler, even in the remotest wilds, where fish and game are abundant—where every vegetable that he sows or plants will yield its increase—should live comfortably and well; his habits of prospective prudence must at all seasons insure him, in the remotest solitudes, the supplies of life, which are too frequently unattainable by the utmost efforts of industry in our crowded towns and agricultural districts.

The wives of these men are called Squaws, and the children Papooses. The little urchins are treated in their infancy in such a way as to give the least possible trouble to their parents. Soon after their birth they are strapped in small frames by day, on their

backs, and hung upon a tree, a hook, or the mamma's back, according to circumstances; they are so strapped up as to be out of all danger. Poor little things, it is certainly better to have them in their very early days safely cased in this way, (nothing but

“ A pretty little nose,
And nice little toes,”

peeping out from the case,) than to have pins sticking in their clothes, and often in their bodies, as with us, while the little unsteady and yielding necks are unable to carry the top-heavy heads; besides, the *carriage* of a child must be better formed by lying fairly on its back until the spine acquires some degree of strength and form, than by being tossed and shaken about by an awkward nurse, every five minutes, during its waking hours. Positively Mrs. Doyle must try this North American plan with the next boy (I don't interfere about the girls, why should I?) which she may happen to have.

Captain Hall gives the following description of a settlement of the tribe of Mississaguas, on the river Credit, which runs into Lake Ontario, on the northern side, and not far from its western extremity:—

“ Till within the last three or four years, these Indians were known in that part of Canada as the most profligate, drunken, and, it was supposed, irreclaimable of savages. Such indeed was their state of wretchedness, that the total and speedy extinction of the whole tribe seemed inevitable. All this was attributed to other causes than poverty; for the annual distribution of goods to the tribe, either as a bounty from the crown, or as a consideration for lands which they had ceded, was most ample; whilst their neighbourhood to populous settlements insured them a ready market for their game or fish, if they had been industriously disposed. They owned also a fine tract of land, reserved for their exclusive use. But it seems they were lost in a state of continual intoxication, brought on by drinking the vilest kind of spirits,

obtained by bartering the clothes and other articles annually served out to them by Government.

“Such a state of things of course attracted much attention, and many plans were suggested for ameliorating their condition; but none succeeded in reclaiming these miserable objects, till about three or four years ago, Sir Peregrine Maitland, then Governor of Upper Canada, conceived the idea of domesticating these Indians on the banks of the river Credit. The ground accordingly was soon cleared, commodious houses were built, and implements of husbandry, clothes, and other things, given to the new settlers. These wretched people were induced to take these chiefly by the influence of a missionary named Jones. He had acquired a considerable degree of influence amongst the tribe in question, and his own virtuous effort being opportunely seconded by the Government, the result, as far as we could judge, was wonderful.

“From living more like hogs than men, these Mississaguas had acquired, when we saw them, many domestic habits. They had all neat houses, made use of beds, tables, and chairs, and were perfectly clean in their persons, instead of being plastered over with paint and grease. They were also tolerably well dressed, and were described as being industrious, orderly, and above all, sober. Most of the children, and a few of the older Indians, could read English; facts which we ascertained by visiting their school, and I have seldom seen any thing more curious. The whole tribe profess Christianity, attend divine service regularly, and what is still more to the purpose, their conduct is said to be in character with their profession. Instead of hunting and fishing for a precarious livelihood, they now cultivate the ground; and in place of galloping off to the whiskey shop with their earnings, lay them by to purchase comforts, and to educate and clothe their children; such, at least, were the accounts given to us.

“We examined the village minutely, and had some conversation with the schoolmaster, a brother of Mr.

Jones,* the person to whose exertion so much of the success of this experiment is due. The number of Indians at the Credit village is only 215; but the great point gained is the fact of reformation being possible. The same feelings and disposition to improve, are extending rapidly, I am told, amongst the other tribes connected with the Mississaguas, and chiefly amongst the Chippewas of Lake Simcoe and those of the Rice Lake."

The state of their farm in 1831, was as follows:

| | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| Tillage . . . | 206 acres. |
| Oxen . . . | 7 yoke (in common.) |
| Do. . . . | 6 do. (private) |
| Cows . . . | 20 |
| Horses . . . | 18 |
| Ploughs . . . | 4 |
| Carts . . . | 2 |
| Sleighs . . . | 8 |

They manufacture gloves, mocassins, and baskets. To the two brothers, Peter and John Jones, all the moral and religious improvement of these men is attributable.

When hunger compels, or a love of sport stimulates him, the American Indian can undergo a vast deal of patient labour. When the rivers or lakes are frozen, he will sit, enveloped in a buffalo skin, the whole length of a day, over a hole which he himself has broken, catching fish, with a bit of red rag by way of bait to his hook. His sagacity appears in determining his course through the woods by the texture of the bark, in a way inexplicable to those less experienced; the bark varies in smoothness by almost imperceptible degrees, according to the points of the compass, and by these marks the untaught Indian treads his way through the mazes of the unfre-

* Mr. Jones (a half bred Indian) has lately married an English lady. No accounting for taste!

quented woods, as correctly as if guided by the compass of the mariner.

The old settlers are extremely hospitable and obliging; the wandering stranger is sure of welcome and accommodation for the night, either among the higher or lower classes of settlers; he is certain of admission into the large farm house, or of a nook in the already crowded family room of the little log house; every person already settled, seems to remember that he had his own day of difficulty to encounter, and feels a sympathy for the necessities of the new comer; in short, the exercise of hospitality is considered a sacred duty, which no one neglects—the circumstances and necessities of the country require it—and even the houseless wanderer can communicate, in exchange for the food and lodging he obtains, a valuable return in news from the mother country, if he be lately from it, or from the remoter townships, with which there can be but little direct and personal intercourse. And who, except one who has been long a stranger to *home* and his friends, can adequately conceive the joy experienced on seeing, in a foreign land, the face of a countryman, perhaps of a townsman, a fellow citizen, one familiar with persons and places dear to the recollection of the Emigrant; suppose him to bring with him a *letter*, from some family connexion—every eye strained with eagerness—all work suspended—every heart beating with anxiety: it is presented—the superscription examined—the seal broken—but, alas, the person to whom it is addressed, either from the crabbed hand, or from a gentle suffusion of the tearful eye, or from *not being in the habit of reading writing*, or perhaps from never having been taught (shame to deficient education) to read at all, is obliged to call in a neighbour's aid to decypher the welcome lines;—they are read over so frequently that the ear devours what the eye refused, and the delighted memory records and retains the minutest passage for ever! The bearer of this joyful epistle is as joyfully received, and treated with every kind-

ness, and questioned as to every point to which it refers, and many others, on which expatiating from local knowledge, he is cherished for his information, set forward in his object of settlement, and saved much of the inconvenience which a total stranger must probably undergo.

There are various colonists in Upper Canada—English, Irish, Scotch, a few German and Dutch, and Americans from the States—but the British vastly preponderate. Those from Holland are a most thriving people, in Upper Canada; they have capital houses, barns, cattle, and implements of husbandry, and are wonderfully neat and clean in their habits. Mr. Pickering mentions having been in the farm house of a Dutchman, who had purchased a farm of 200 acres for 800 dollars, at 4s. 6d. each, which he had accumulated by the sale of the skins of Musk rats, at half a dollar each.—The English are the next in point of comfort and neatness, the lowland Scotch coming next to them—and then the Irish and Scotch Highlanders, who are pretty much on a *par* in many particulars.—It is said that too many of my countrymen are fonder of company-keeping and *frolicking* than is consistent with economy and profit. The testimony on this point is unhappily very strong, from various sources; the habits of imprudence, of apathy, which former hopelessness and constant distress perhaps have caused, are long continued, and it is not to be expected that those who have never experienced the decencies of life (I speak of the lowest class of Irish labourers and small farmers) should suddenly acquire tastes and habits totally unknown to them. In proof of this, it is said that the settlement of Scotch Highlanders in the township of Glengarry, though a moral colony, has not shown the evidences of a thriving and neat people, because their habits were of a rambling kind. They, like the Irish, never were a steady industrious set at home: an intermixture with the Lowland Scotch, who are an *educated* people, and the English, who are, like them, industrious and orderly,

would be of great advantage to all parties. A *cross* in the breeds—English, Irish, and Scotch—would, I think, be very desirable. Each nation has some admirable qualities—each also has faults—if their dispositions and habits be blended together, we shall have an improved character.

Captain Hall, who visited a Colony of 2024 settlers, sent out by Government in 1825, to a part of Upper Canada called Peterborough, at an expense of £21. 5s. 4d. a head—each family being supplied with provisions for fifteen months and a hundred acres of land, besides minor aids, says, “The emigrants were scattered over such an extensive district of country, that I found it impossible to visit them all; but I endeavoured, by riding from place to place, and calling upon the people without warning, to acquire a general conception of what was going on. It was curious to observe, that most of these settlers, however destitute they may notoriously have been in Ireland, always contrived to evade any acknowledgment of this fact, when direct questions were put to them, and seemed rather to wish I should believe they had been very well off at home. But with a degree of inconsistency, creditable enough, by the way, they were invariably thrown off their guard when asked in plain terms, whether or not they were sensible of the kindness shown them? Upon these occasions they spoke in the strongest terms of gratitude of what had been done for them by Government; and often quite forgetting their formal disavowals, described with characteristic animation the transition from their past situation to their present happy condition. What I thought very odd, no complaints ever met my ear of any omissions on the part of Government; on the contrary, they told me that every want had been attended to.

“‘Even to the value of that gimlet,’ said one of the settlers to me, ‘we are obligated to the king—God bless him! and we shall bring up our children to know what has been done for us and for them, and to be

loyal subjects of his Majesty, whatever happens, like as we ourselves are, and good reason too, for we have been taken from misery and want, and put into independence and happiness.'

"For a long time he eluded all my interrogatories with great address. He could not say whether or not he were better off now, than he had been at home, though he admitted that here he was master of a large free property, and in Ireland he had only a farm, the rent of which, by his own confession, he had never been able to pay.

"'Would you like then,' I asked, 'to be put down in Ireland again, Mr. Cornelius, just as you were?'

"'I would, Sir.'

"'Then why don't you go? Who hinders you?'

"'Because of the boys, Sir.'

"'What of the boys?' I asked.

"'O, its because my two sons like this country very well; they have chopped twenty acres of land, and we have got crops of wheat and oats, and Indian corn and potatoes, and some turnips, all coming up and almost ready to cut, besides five or six more acres chopped and logged, and soon to be in cultivation, and the boys like their independence. In short, Sir, it's a fine country for a poor man, if he be industrious, and, were it not for the ague, a good country, and a rich one, though to be sure it is rather out of the way, and the roads are bad and winter very cold; yet there is always plenty to eat and sure employment, and good pay for them that like to work.'

"The universal satisfaction expressed by these people is creditable to the statesman—I believe Mr. Wilmot Horton—who devised the experiment—to Mr. Peter Robinson, by whose skill and patience it was carried through its many difficulties;—and also to the good sense, moderation, and industry of the poor emigrants themselves, who, though raised from the lowest degree of dependence, and almost of starvation, showed that they had sufficient strength of mind to bear prosperity with steadiness, and feeling enough

to acknowledge, without reserve, to whose bounty they stood so deeply indebted.

“It was two o’clock before we reached the clearing, as it is called, of one of the most active of all the emigrants of 1825. He was not at home, but his wife did the honors of her Shanty or Log Hut, with much of that affability and genuine good breeding which belong to the Irish. She introduced her three eldest sons to me—lads of twenty, eighteen, and sixteen years of age; besides a great fry of young ones, boys and girls—in all, eleven. From November, 1825, to this period, July 1827, they had cleared, I think, twenty-six acres of land, most of which were under rich cultivation.

“The size of the Log Huts or Shanties, put up at the expense of Government, may be conceived when I mention, that two men accustomed to the axe, can manage to cut down the trees, prepare the logs, put them up, roof the house, and complete the whole establishment in two days. I should say the dimensions of this particular dwelling were twenty feet long by twelve wide, and seven feet high. The roof was formed of logs split into four lengths, then hollowed out, and laid with the concave and the convex sides alternately upwards and downwards, so as to overlap one another, like long tiles sloping from the ridge to the eaves, so that each alternate log formed a gutter or channel to carry off the rain. The openings between the logs forming the walls were closed by mud and moss mixed together; and sometimes these shanties had a window, sometimes not.

“Unless I could put down the exact words used by this good lady herself, and her family, I should convey no just idea of the extent of their gratitude for the advantages they had received. It was not possible, she said, to express how entirely satisfied they were with their present lot, or how completely Government had provided for all their wants, and enabled them to start fair in this new world. I tried by

various questions to get her to make complaints, and to say they stood in need of something, but I could not elicit a single dissatisfied expression.

“I found a hardy fellow, who had come to the spot only in May, or little more than two months before. In this short interval, with some slight assistance, he had chopped, logged, and branded or burned timber on seven acres of land, which were now mostly sown with wheat and Indian corn. This man had accompanied the other settlers in 1825, but having no money, not even a single dollar, he had gone into the service of a gentleman settled near Peterborough, and by saving his wages, was enabled, at the end of a year and a half, to establish himself to greater advantage on the lot granted him by Government, than he could possibly have done at first.

“Both Pat and his wife, as well as their children, told me they were delighted with their new situation, though every one had been ill with the ague, and more than half of them had it still. Indeed I do not think we entered a single house, in or near Peterborough, where some members of the family were not suffering under this ferreting, though seldom fatal complaint. But what is curious enough, it was confined very much to recent settlers, while on the older establishments, similarly circumstanced as to soil and situation, the sickness was not only less, but was gradually wearing out.

“The settler to whom I was now speaking, in all the pride of territorial possession, entreated me to walk over his grounds. In the course of our progress through the uncleared part of his domain, we came upon one of the most magnificent oaks I think I ever beheld. I stood for some time admiring it, and thinking what a pity it was that such a glorious tree should be felled to the earth; and still more, that it should afterwards be chopped up, and burned along with vulgar pine logs, instead of being converted into frame timbers and into breast hooks for a first

rate ship of war, its true destiny, if doomed to the axe. 'I wish very much,' said I to the owner, 'that for my sake you would spare this grand oak?'

"O, that I will, your honour, I'll spare twenty of them if you have a mind, only point them out to me, Sir.'

"No, no, I want only this one.'

"Very well, Sir, very well, it shall be yours from this moment; and if you will give me leave, it shall bear your name, and a fence shall be put round it, and while I have breath in my body, there it shall stand you may be sure, and even after me, if my children will respect their father's wishes.—Do you hear that, boys?'

"I have since received a letter from a friend in that quarter of the world, in which the following passage occurs:—

"I have been over to see the good folks at Peterborough and Douro, since you left us; your visit there, with Mrs. Hall, is held in the most pleasing recollection, and Welsh, the Irish Emigrant, vows eternal vengeance against any one that shall dare to do the least injury to Captain Hall's oak.'"

The *North American Horses* are very hardy; they are often taken little care of, and badly housed on the frequent journeys which they are forced to make with the *sleigh*, are fed with the coarsest hay, and littered down with the boughs of the spruce and hemlock fir. The tender branches of these are also used, with salt, as winter food for cows, which feed well upon this provender.

Two horses abreast, called in the Canadian phraseology a *span* of horses, will travel from forty to fifty miles a day, stopping to bait every ten or twelve miles. When the snow makes good roads, the Canadians travel about a great deal very comfortably in the sleighs, covered up with furs and every kind of warm clothing. Farmers generally carry their own oats and hay, for these are indispensable in ranging

through the newly opened townships, where settlers and tavern keepers are not to be often met with.

These horses cost from £10 to £20 each.

Oxen are very much used in all farming operations, removing trees, ploughing, harrowing, carting, &c.; a pair of these may be estimated, if broken in, at £10 or £15, and an unbroken pair at about £8; these, as well as cows, feed in winter on the boughs of the spruce and hemlock firs, which being given through the winter, are a never failing supply of forage.

Sheep do not answer in the woods, but after three years you can have pasture land for their summer, and Swedish turnips and pumpkins for their winter keep; they may be rated at 5s. 6d. sterling each, as stock; they should be penned up at night in the new settlements, lest wolves should attack them—but this precaution is not taken in the old cleared lands, from which those beasts of prey keep a respectful distance, and indeed in general the Canadian wolves are not ferocious in disposition—they avoid mankind; if you let them alone, they will let you alone; the settlers do not fear them, and in the course of a few years more, as improvement of land and population increase, they will disappear altogether, and be as unknown there as they *now* are in the British Isles, where history tells us they formerly appeared in great numbers.* Wool is highly valuable to the Colonist, who can have it carded for two or three pence a pound; if he have a wife or daughters, he has it of course spun at home in the long winter nights, and if he have no money, he gets it woven, by giving part of the cloth—a large share by the bye—to the weaver for his labour.

Hogs are an excellent stock to keep in Canada, for they can roam and fatten in the woods, where

* For every wolf's scalp produced to a magistrate, a premium of £1. 10s. or £2. is paid.

nuts and acorns are abundant. Mr. Pickering very judiciously recommends the Berkshire breed, as the most thriving when left to shift for themselves, and he also suggests the expediency of introducing the *Leicester* breed of sheep; but cattle of all kinds will be improved in their respective breeds, before a long time shall have passed, as they have agricultural societies in Lower Canada, and it is to be supposed and hoped, that similar societies will be formed in the Upper Province, which will tend to introduce every variety of useful stock. Store pigs may be purchased at 4s. 6d. each, and breeding sows at about 15s. each.

*Deer** may be shot in the woods, and few settlers will feel the want of a bit of fresh meat for the pot, if they can use a gun, or possess a little money or whiskey to give in exchange for venison to the natives. *Hares* and *Rabbits* also are in abundance, nor is the *Buffalo* to be omitted.

Fowls also of all kinds, wild and tame, abound. Of the wild, *Partridges* are the most easily procured. Of these there are two species—the *Birch* partridge and the *Spruce*; the former kind is larger than ours, and of delicately white flesh; the *Spruce* (so called from its having the taste of the spruce fir) is smaller and darker coloured: both these kinds are so tame as to be easily killed—they perch upon the trees, which they will not desert, though their companions be shot around them, provided that care be taken to kill the lower birds first, shooting them in regular gradation upwards. There are also *Quails* and *Grouse*.

Wild Pigeons are in great number; about April they come in large flocks, and are shot in thousands—no fines for shooting them; every one may help himself without scruple, or interference with the pro-

* For forest sports see "Authentic Letters from Upper Canada, by the Rev. Thomas Radcliff."

perty of another. Wild geese, turkeys, and ducks, when they come to their haunts, afford profitable sport. The settlers shoot them on the banks of lakes or rivers (where I have recommended you to purchase your lots) from ambuscades in which they watch for the water fowl, and are often rewarded with a great fall: cold work this, however—fur caps, buffalo cloaks, very warm stockings, and mittens, are indispensable, as it would be no joke to purchase the sport, or the food, at the loss of a frost bitten nose or fingers. Aquatic fowl are particularly numerous at Rice Lake: and in the marshy grounds, the sportsman finds *Snipes* and *Woodcocks*.

Fish of every variety is to be had. *Salmon* of fine size are frequently caught, with a rod or seine; a man on the banks of a lake or river can, almost always, have a luxurious dish for his table. And if he does not know how to cook it, let him learn from the practice of dear sweet beautiful Killarney, thus: take your Salmon fresh out of the water, and cut it into junks of an inch in thickness; have as many peeled rods as you have pieces of Salmon, stuck into the ground and sharpened at the top; put a slice on each, forming a circular line of upright spits. Prepare beforehand a fire of dry brush wood; set fire to it, and keep turning your junks as you go round, by turning these rod-spits; in about fifteen minutes and as many turns, your fish will be perfectly roasted. Black and white *Bass*, *Sturgeon*, *Trout*, *Pickereel*, *Maskinonge*, and *Cod-fish*, are also plentiful. Great quantities are caught in the spring and autumn, especially at the latter season, when white fish are taken in such numbers that, besides what is used for home consumption, many thousand barrels are salted and shipped every year for different sections of the United States, where they are in great demand. This fish is delicious when fresh, and salted, is a most palatable and wholesome food, so that most families in the country lay in a winter stock, particularly the

Roman Catholics, who use them in Lent, and on other fish days.

Besides the net and rod, (but who would spare his valuable time to trifle with the latter when he may more profitably take his prey by wholesale with the former?) *spearing* fish is very common; it is executed in the following way, at night: the fisherman goes into a light canoe, which may be bought from a native for a few shillings, and take torches with him, made of the birch bark, rolled up in folds, three or four deep—one of these pieces of bark he inserts in the top of a pole, split up just far enough to keep hold of the birch—he then stands at the head of the boat, leaning over, and looking into the bottom of the water, while a companion gently paddles the boat forward; he must be cautious, steady, and active—cautious, lest he should fright the fish—steady, to avoid tumbling over head and heels into the water—and active as well as practised, to spear the fish, or to follow him along if the light should startle him. The natives catch a great deal of fish in this way; their wives, perhaps with the incumbrance, too, of a *Papoose*, work the canoes, and thus obtain a needful supply of food. Salmon,* trout, and carp, are thus taken.

It is curious to see an inexperienced person trying to spear a fish at the bottom of deep water: not allowing for the refraction of the rays of light, he strikes at the fish where he *thinks* it is, and finds his spear perhaps a foot or two before or behind it, and when pulling up the spear by its long handle, he is jerked in, over head and ears, where, if he cannot swim, he may very shortly go to the bottom. If any of *you* make this experiment in deep water, take the precaution of leaving *the wife* at home, in charge

* I have heard that 1100 salmon have been speared in one night, and perhaps as many more wounded and left to die in agonies.—This is a horrible mode of fishing.

of the bairns, in case of your going down, else you may in your struggles carry the poor woman with you, and then who would take care of the children? And never go to fish till you have every thing necessary provided, or you may be as far from bringing home a salmon as the Garryowen boy on the bridge of Limerick, who, lounging over the battlement, and spying a large fish immediately below him, observed to his companions, "Ov I had a boat I would gaff that salmon, only that I have no gaff."

Where salmon are abundant, it is of course desirable to preserve them for winter food, either by pickling or smoking them. A good supply of cured fish, with the accompaniments of geese and turkeys, and fowls, (wild and tame), venison, beef, &c. hung up during the frost, is a cheering prospect to the poor settlers in the winter months, and all these luxuries and comforts he can easily have.—The usual mode is to kill fat deer, sheep, and fowls, at the commencement of the frost, in those districts where its long continuance is certain, and to expose them to be frozen for a night; they will then, in this congealed state, keep fresh during the whole winter. A double purpose is obtained by this plan—the animals are killed before they lose their condition, and the food which they would otherwise consume during the winter is saved.

The *Animals* which exist in North America, not used for food, are *Foxes*, *Wolves*, *Bears*, and *Beavers*.

Of *Insects*, *Fire-flies* are the most beautiful. In the summer season they glitter in swarms upon the boughs of trees, and hanging over the waters' edge, present after sunset an inexpressibly brilliant appearance. A most agreeable and correct writer, treating of the vivid beauty of the sky and stars in that climate, thus introduces the luminous effect produced by the Fireflies.

"Hosts of other luminaries of lesser magnitude flung each its particular shaft of splendor on the

tranquil and shadowy sea. As I gazed, the air burst into atoms of green fire before my face, and in an instant they were gone; I turned round, and saw all the woods upon the mountains illuminated with ten thousands of flaming torches, moving in every direction, now rising, now falling, vanishing here, re-appearing there, converging to a globe, and dispersing in spangles. No man can conceive, from dry description alone, the magical beauty of these glorious creatures; so far from their effects having been exaggerated by travellers, I can say that I never read an account in prose or verse, which in the least prepared me for the reality."

Mosquitoes are certainly confoundedly troublesome, in the uncleared districts and swampy places, but not in the cleared grounds. The *Snakes*, which are met with in great numbers, are quite harmless; *there are no noxious reptiles in Canada*. A friend of mine has informed me that he once, when on horseback, saw a snake three feet long, with an enormous head, gliding from under his horse, with a toad three times the diameter of his own body sticking in his jaws, which were extended prodigiously, the toad having slipped about twelve inches down the snake's throat, with its legs stretched out at each side of the mouth: he dismounted, brought the two animals home, and in about fifteen minutes the toad was sucked down completely, to the great relief of both parties—I mean *the snake and the toad*. A snake often catches a great bull frog, which, as may be supposed, makes no trifling uproar while travelling down the reptile's throat.

Frogs give regular concerts in the summer evenings, and in every variety of note; they are sometimes joined in their musical entertainments by the little birds called 'Whip-poor-Will,' (from the resemblance of his note to these words,) and by other musical animals; nor is the chirping of the cricket, which finely harmonizes with the hoarse croaking of the bull frog, to be omitted; in short, you must be

hard to be pleased, if such varied music does not please you. I had nearly omitted the *Musquash*, a kind of water rat, which is a useful little animal, its fur being used as felt of a coarse kind, for winter hats. In the woods are many *Squirrels* and *Racoons*, which if they are not useful, are at least perfectly inoffensive to mankind.

Bees thrive and multiply fast in Upper Canada, and honey (and of course metheglin,) may be had in abundance, by taking ordinary care of them.

The *Humming Bird*, which resembles a Bee in sound and flight, is also to be seen there.

The chief Vegetable Productions.—Trees, Corn, and Fruit.

The *Trees* are of almost every description, and present towards the end of summer a most luxuriant foliage; the flats in many places are occupied by the deciduous kinds, whose leaves in their decay, assuming every hue from brilliant scarlet and bright yellow to orange and dark brown, contrast their varied tints with the deep green of the pines, and produce an effect unequalled by any thing we see in the old country.

This splendid variety of foliage indicates a variety of timber, and a variety of soil. The chief kinds of timber are the oak, ash, cedar, chesnut, beech, birch, willow, poplar, weeping elm, maple, hiccory, sycamore, white cherry, and black walnut, which last being comparatively scarce, and with the butternut, useful for furniture, should not be destroyed in clearing, neither should the maple, of which the Canadians make an important use. From this tree sugar is extracted, which is very easily managed for domestic purposes, and even for sale, at $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. The method of producing it is by making an incision or notch in the tree, about an inch and a half

deep by two inches wide, from which the sap, of a saccharine nature, runs off into small troughs, and from them is put into boilers on a slow fire: the longer this gradual boiling is continued, the more refined will be the sugar. When finished, it is poured into pots, and when cooled, is harder than lump sugar. The skimmings make excellent molasses. A well sized tree will yield, at an average, 6lbs. of sugar without being exhausted, and will continue to do so annually. Those useful trees abound in Canada, where some persons make from 10 to 20 cwt. in a season.

Here also are the balm of gilead tree, the hemlock-pine, the juniper, and various other evergreens in abundance.

The tulip tree, which grows to an immense size, is considered excellent for outward boarding, taking paint particularly well, and, as it never blazes when burning, is unlikely to cause accident by fire. The white oak and yellow pine are the trees most prized for making frame houses. The oak, ash, maple, beech, and hickory, point out the best soil; that of sandy quality produces pine, hemlock, and tulip; generally the strength and excellence of the different qualities of land are indicated by the growth and vigour of the trees they bear. The timber of the western townships, on the shores of the lakes, is of a superior quality, and will be valuable to the colonists for sale.

The *Agricultural produce* consists of wheat, barley, oats, rye, Indian corn, rice, peas, beans, potatoes, turnips, cabbages, tobacco, vetches, clover (of which there is little sown, though it thrives well) and grasses, of which the timothy is the most common.

The *Fruits* are of every description, and of exquisite quality—pine apples raised without trouble, melons and grapes growing wild in the woods; peaches, nectarines, plums, apples, pears, cherries,

gooseberries, strawberries, currants, raspberries, walnuts, chesnuts, and filberts.

None who are blessed with health, unless most thoughtless and improvident, can suffer distress in a country so gifted in its natural productions.

Minerals.—Manures.

Iron Mines have been found, and manufactories for iron works are already established in many places. Mr. Pickering states that "iron ore is abundant and good in various parts of the province, chiefly found in swamps or sandy land; and forges and furnaces are now so common, that iron and cast-ware are plentiful and moderately cheap; wrought iron, which if well made, is very tough and good, fetches its price, and cast-iron for mill machinery is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.; stoves, pots, kettles, &c. at an advance in proportion to extra workmanship."

Lead and *Copper* have also been discovered; and *Coals*, though very unnecessary, may also be raised.

Limestone and *Gypsum* are abundant, in some places the former is inexhaustible; the latter is considered a valuable manure, acting upon land as lime does, and with great effect, but used in a lesser proportion. On newly broken soil, abounding with vegetable matter, these manures are most efficacious; but soils worn out by constant tillage become more exhausted from the use of calcareous stimulants, and in all cases, an overdose should be avoided. In America however, there is no danger at present of exhaustion, or failure of vegetable matter.

Salt is abundant, and in no country is it more copiously used. Every skilful cattle feeder in our own country is aware of the value of salt, and uses it with great effect; it is very agreeable to most animals, promotes appetite, and preserves health. Whether it is owing to the unrestrained use of salt by sheep

in America, or to the dryness of the climate, I cannot venture to pronounce, but the fact is that the scab which requires so much *shepherding* in these countries, is unknown in Canada, where sheep and hogs have access to it at all times in their feeding places.

The use of it ought to be more general with us, for experience proves its utility. I myself knew a very extensive sheep farmer (whose herbage was considered to generate flukes in the livers of his sheep, which often proved fatal) to have saved his sheep at last by the use of salt, which he continued afterwards to give with uninterrupted success.

There are salt springs in various places, and these are frequently visited by deer, who will travel a considerable distance for a "lick," thus pointing out the propriety of giving salt to animals, who would instinctively reject it if it were not salutary to them. In short, a Canadian would apprehend the loss of his stock, were he too sparing of salt.

It is to be regretted that the want of capital, or the more tempting investment of it in the purchase of land, has hitherto acted as an obstacle to the manufacture of salt from these springs. Salt is obtained from the United States, and at a loss to the Canadian much greater than if produced at his door. If salt were cheaper and on the spot, the catching and curing of lake fish, particularly a species of herring, like the *Loughneagh Pullen*, which abounds in North America, would more amply repay the fisherman for his time and trouble.

Habitations.—Employment.—Preparation of the Soil.—Mode of Farming.

The first habitation which a settler thinks of, is the *log house*.* The *Shanty* differs but little from

* The walls are contrived in the same manner as a school-boy makes a crib, except that they must be upright; but,

the log or block house; it is roofed like a shed on a small scale, and was originally introduced by the woodsmen as a temporary shelter.

like that, they have corresponding notches, cut out of the ends of the respective logs, that their adjoining surfaces may close, with as little space as possible between them, and that the coins or angles may be thus strongly braced.

“ The elevation must depend on the room required within. Where upper apartments are intended, it must rise accordingly, and proportionably higher in a *log* house, which is generally finished with a shed or pent-house roof.

“ In the formation of this roof, however simple, much accuracy is to be observed.

“ Black ash and bass wood are considered best adapted to this purpose—the stems should be about fourteen inches in diameter, straight, clean, and easily split. Having cut them into lengths, corresponding with the pitch of the roof, they are then to be cleft asunder, and hollowed out by the axe, like rude troughs.

“ These are ranged in sufficient number from front to rere, in the line of the roof with the hollow side uppermost; and over them are ranged alternately an equal number, with the *round* side uppermost; so that the adjoining edges of each two of the upper logs meet in the hollow of that beneath them, whilst the adjoining edges of each two of the lower logs are covered by the hollow of that which is above them; thus forming a compact roof, perfectly water tight, as the hollows of the under logs effectually carry off all rain that may fall through the joints of the upper surface; and the roof continues staunch as long as the timbers remain undecayed.

“ This being completed, means must be taken to admit both the *family* and the *light*. The openings for the doors and windows, (which are generally procured, ready made, from the nearest settlement) are then formed in the walls by a cross cut saw or an axe.

“ The chimney is then built with mud, if stones be scarce. The *stutting* afterwards takes place, which means the filling up the vacancies between the logs with slips of wood, mud, and moss; the floor is then formed of cleft planks, pinned to logs sunk in the ground, and smoothed or rather levelled with an adze. The interior partitions, &c. may be got forward by

As the settler finds his circumstances improving, he either enlarges his log house, or builds a good *frame* house. A barn and other offices are successively raised of square blocks of wood, and with a rapidity which is quite surprising, the circumstances and habits of the country providing assistance for those in want of it.

The older colonists about you, if solicited, will come and help at what (from the bustle and activity of the work,) is termed a *Bee*. They first draw the timber together with oxen, (provided that you have it previously felled, cut into the proper lengths, and squared,) and raise up your house; this kind of work is called a *raising Bee*, and in the same way, assistance is mutually given in beating out the Indian corn from its husks, in what is called a *husking Bee*—the nature of the work always determining the denomination of the *Bee*.

Such is the friendliness of the more established settlers, that they will dispense with your giving them breakfast and dinner, if your circumstances render you really unable to provide them; some whiskey, and the evening frolic, are sufficient inducements for the attendance of your neighbours, whose accommodating mode of assisting each other, and of doing as they would be done unto, is highly creditable to their feelings. It will, however, be expected, and very

degrees; but the oven, which is an essential, must be completed before the arrival of the family.

“Stones or brick must be procured for this, at any inconvenience, for security against fire; but mud will serve as mortar. It is always built outside the house, and stands alone. It is heated with pine, or very dry hard wood split into small pieces, and burnt in the oven to ashes, which being swept out, the bread is baked as in the common brick ovens at home, where dried furze are used to heat them. Thus, at the expiration of three or four weeks, the preparations are completed.”—*Radcliff's Canada*.

fairly, that you will repay these acts of kindness by giving labour in return, on similar occasions.

You should, if your means will permit, and that you are handy enough to use them, take with you a box of tools. I do not mean heavy and cumbrous ones, but those which occupy but little room and are suited to nice work. Cabinet-makers and carpenters will of course take out their chests of tools, but every one of you should, on going to the woods, be provided with the following articles, such as the Government gave in 1825 to the emigrants whom they sent out :

| | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| 1 American axe, | 1 Hammer, |
| 1 Handsaw, | 1 Iron wedge, |
| 1 Auger, | 3 Hoes, |
| 1 Pick axe, | 1 Kettle, |
| 1 Spade, | 1 Frying pan, |
| 2 Gimlets, | 1 Iron pot, nails, and |

a small portable hand-mill for grinding corn:—a gun and fishing nets will be of great service, if you have means to purchase them. You should also have good warm frieze coats and jackets, and worsted stockings and mittens for the winter; linen trowsers and jacket for the summer; as many linen shirts as you can afford to take out, (linen being dear in Canada,) and a short flannel shirt, to be worn next the skin, both in summer and winter. In the former season, it will be found most comfortable, as it absorbs perspiration; without it, the linen shirt becoming wet, and cooling upon the body, is apt to give cold and produce *ague*, the only complaint which the settler need dread; and this, I am convinced, is usually the effect of incaution when heated, and of exposure to the air at night, when damp fogs are not unfrequent, but which disappear at sunrise, before which time no prudent person should be out.

And here, it will not be out of place to give a few simple hints on the general subject of health.

In the newly surveyed western districts of the Upper Province, to which you should press forward, for the reasons already stated, physicians within

visiting distance, and *Dispensaries*, are as yet not to be found. You should therefore provide yourselves with such simple medicines as may preserve the bowels from irregularity, by which many disorders, proceeding from neglect of those important organs, may be prevented; after the long voyage in particular, medicine is necessary—many persons have had bilious fevers and agues from not making use of it, and have attributed to the effects of climate their want of health, which probably originated in their ignorance of medicine, or their inattention to the use of it.

As to furniture, a man who is possessed of any ingenuity can make, by degrees, what is most necessary, and at the same time simple in its construction.—The bark of the bass tree, woven or laced across his bedstead, will support his mattress, and that mattress need consist of nothing more expensive than the boughs of the spruce fir, or dry beach leaves; a buffalo skin will answer for quilt and blankets. Now a man need not serve a seven years' apprenticeship to supply these matters.

When there is no out-of-door work, time may be usefully occupied in the making of furniture.

A friend of mine, a gentleman, too, unaccustomed to what is called labour, who took out three sons with him, youths who in this country had been in the habit of practising at the lathe, of making implements, &c. found them invaluable to him in his settlement near York,—in a very short time they made all the wooden furniture of his new frame house—sofas, and tables of every kind, from a lady's work table, (with roped pillars of black walnut,) to the kitchen table—chimney pieces, painted, polished, and varnished; bedsteads, carts, waggons, and wheelbarrows—they were also equally expert at smith's work, and shod their own horses. They had taken out a good box of tools with them, the use of which saved them large sums of money, and when I last heard from them, they were putting up a frame-barn, 65 feet

in length, 35 in breadth, and 20 feet in height, with an ice-house under it, and a store house for roots, to preserve them from frost.

I have already told you that abundance of employment in agricultural labour awaits the poor emigrant in Upper Canada, where he cannot fail to earn a sufficiency of food and clothing, besides accumulating capital for the purchase of land, which he should not think of settling on, until he has sufficient means to improve and turn it to profitable account.

There are few instances of *sober* and *industrious* men remaining long without some freehold land for themselves, and it is a most satisfactory consideration to those who go out utterly dependent on their industry, that their personal labour is, to them, a sure mine of wealth. The labourer who has no money, should at once go to service with a farmer in the *western* district; if he is an able workman, he will earn in felling timber, suppose 10 or 15 dollars a month, often paid in agricultural produce, wheat, flour, or cattle, and sometimes in land; there is, besides, plenty of job work in cleaning land, cutting staves, cordwood, &c. at which vigorous and handy men earn about 15 dollars a month. An American accustomed to the work will chop an acre of *soft* wood in a week or little more, and any kind of hard wood in a fortnight at farthest, and he receives from £1 to £3 per acre for this, with excellent diet. Besides chopping the timber, he must clear all the underwood and lay it in heaps for burning, and cut up the trees into proper lengths (with their heads together,) for removal; and the timber of 4 or 5 acres will (through the kind medium of the *logging Bee*) be drawn off the ground in a single day. When timber is burned, if a potashery be near, the sale of the ashes will produce a smart sum.

If he have a wife and daughters, they may earn four or five, or perhaps six dollars a month each, particularly if they can spin and card wool; (pretty labourer's wives and daughters they will be other-

wise !) and hardy boys and girls can earn three or four dollars a month each. Now what a nice stock purse can thus be made up in a very short time ! all these wages are clear gain—board and lodging being always provided—and they are *well* fed on animal food, and all kinds of good things, the very mention of which would set your chops watering. But again and again I must press this important point upon you, that male and female, if they expect to prosper, must be willing and accustomed to work ;—the idle, the drunken, and the desponding, have no business there, where all is energy of mind and body.

Dr. Franklin, himself an extraordinary instance of industry, temperance, perseverance, and talent, called America in his day “ a country of labour.” It is so still, for in the British Colonies, as well as in the parts to which he referred, the industrious have nothing to fear ;—the certainty, too, of making the most of their time and labour, urges to extraordinary efforts, and utterly, and at once, casts off all that comparative indolence and dejection of spirits which many of you, from having so little stimulus to exertion, frequently manifest at home.

Many persons, who some years ago were without a shilling, now possess in Canada, farms with 70 or 80 acres cleared, large stacks of corn, horses, oxen, cows, sheep, hogs, and poultry ;—but on the other hand, some, who might have been in good circumstances, are very poor, but these are they whom disgusting intemperance has ruined, and such persons would not thrive any where.

Perhaps you would like to see the rates of labour of all kinds :

WAGES—BOARD NOT FOUND.

Stone Masons earn from 6s. 3d. to 7s. 6d. a day.

Bricklayers, 7s. 6d. to 8s. 9d. a day, or 12s. 6d. to 15s. per thousand bricks laid.

| | | |
|------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Brickmakers, | 5s. to 7s. 6d. | a day. |
| Plasterers, | 7s. 6d. a day, or 9d. to 10d. | per square yard of work. |
| Carpenters and Joiners, | 6s. 3d. | a day. |
| Cabinet-makers, | 7s. 6d. | a day. |
| Sawyers, | 7s. 6d. a day, or 7s. 6d. | per 100 feet of pine. |
| And | 8s. 9d. | ... oak. |
| Painters and Glaziers, | 5s. | a day. |
| Coopers, | 6s. 3d. to 7s. 6d. | ... |
| Shipwrights, | 7s. 6d. to 10s. | ... |
| Blacksmiths, | 5s. | ... |
| Wheelwrights, | 5s. | ... |
| Waggon-makers, | 5s. | ... |
| Saddlers, | 5s. | ... |
| Curriers, | 5s. | ... |
| Tailor, | £1. for making a coat, 5s. trowsers, and 5s. waistcoat, | |
| Shoemakers, | 22s. 6d. for making a pair of top-boots—13s. 9d. | |
| | for a pair of Hessian boots—and 12s. 6d. for Wellington boots. | |
| Labourers and Farm Servants, | 3s. 9d. | a day. |
| In harvest time, | 6s. 3d. | ... |
| Reaping an acre of Wheat, | 12s. 6d. | |
| Cradling, | 6s. 3d. | |
| Mowing | ... Hay, 5s. | |
| Ploughing an acre of Land, | 6s. 3d. | |
| Harrowing, | 2s. 6d. | |

Now these are great wages, particularly when it is ascertained, that the articles of food are very moderate according to the subjoined table of

MARKET PRICES.

| | | |
|-----------------|--|------------------|
| Wheat per bush. | 4s. 8d. to 5s. equal to 37s. 6d. to 40s. | per quarter. |
| Barley, | ... 3s. 2d. | ... 25s. 4d. ... |
| Rye, | ... 3s. 3d. | ... 26s. ... |
| Oats, | ... 1s. 6d. | ... 12s. ... |
| Indian Corn, | 3s. 9d. | ... 30s. ... |
| Pease, | 3s. 2d. | ... 25s. 4d. ... |

| | | |
|---------|---|-----------------------------|
| Flour, | 25s. | per barrel of 196 pounds. |
| Beef, | per pound, 3d. or by the quarter 22s. 6d. | per 100 pounds. |
| Mutton | ... | 3½d. |
| Pork | ... | 3d. or 25s. per 100 pounds. |
| Tallow | ... | 4½d. rough. |
| Lard | ... | 5d. |
| Butter | ... | 9d. fresh, 7½d. salt. |
| Cheese | ... | 5d. |
| Eggs, | per dozen, | 9d. |
| Geese, | per couple, | 3s. 9d. |
| Ducks | ... | 1s. 10d. |
| Fowls | ... | 1s. 3d. |
| Turkeys | ... | 3s. 2d. |
| Hay, | per ton, | £2. 10s. |

You will thank me for giving Mr. Pickering's advice for the guidance of the settler who has obtained land:

“To a person who is about to settle on entire wood land, I would recommend the following system: clear well a few acres in the immediate vicinity and all round the site on which the house is intended to be built, that the trees left standing may be at a sufficient distance to be out of danger of falling on it, and let a small piece be fenced off for cattle to lie in at night, out of the same danger in windy weather; then cut down, on ten or fifteen acres, the small and decayed trees and under-brush; burn them, and girdle the remainder of the trees; sow this ground with wheat early in the fall (autumn,) or part of it with oats in the spring, and with them clover and a small quantity, of grass seeds mixed: the clover and grass to be mowed the first year or two, and grazed afterwards. Do the same next year with a still further quantity for six or seven years in succession, and likewise clear a small piece quite off for corn and potatoes, cabbage, &c. in front of the house, and next to the road or street. In about six or seven years

the roots of the trees will be rotten, and some of the girdled ones fallen; then begin and chop down ten or fifteen acres of these girdled trees yearly, in a dry time, felling them a cross each other to break them into pieces; put fire into them in various parts of the field and it will burn most of them up; what little may be left unconsumed must be collected into heaps and burned. It is necessary to keep a watch over the fences while this is going on, that they do not take fire. After this you may plough and plant what you please, as, generally, the ground will be in pretty good condition."

It is necessary to explain the term *girdling** which means making an incision two or three inches deep round the tree, at the height at which it is usually cut down, four feet from the bottom; this kills the tree, which remains with its throat cut until there is time to cut down and clear it away; the object is to prevent the trees from overshadowing the crop around them—and a very expeditious and economical mode it is. The cut, however, ought not, I think, to be so deep as to cause any danger of the tree falling from the wintry blast, lest it might tumble on the cattle, if they should have a range through the girdled portions of wood, or upon the fences which may be close to them; a shallow cut effectually destroys the circulation of the sap and of course the vegetation of the tree, and this is the object sought. The experienced colonist disapproves, however, of this process altogether. Take great care when chopping, not to bring the trees on your own heads: the boughs too, when recoiling from the ground, sometimes strike a severe and dangerous blow to the woodsman. An acre may be rendered fit for culture at an expense of 40s. when partly girdled and partly chopped.

After the trees are cut down, it is usual to leave

* The larger trees only are girdled, those which do not exceed one foot in diameter are cut down.

the stump and roots standing, until age rots them away, or until there is time for *burning* them. The reason why the stumps are not rooted out, is because time is too valuable to be expended in any labour not *immediately* profitable. By clearing away the trees which obstruct the passage of light and air, enough is done to insure a succession of crops—and as the introduction of the plough at first is not essential, the loss of ground is merely that occupied by the stumps and their roots; an inconsiderable portion of the whole surface—the more you can clear in a rough way the better; the clearing of the stumps is to be an after consideration, when you shall have first got rid of the trees themselves, and raised crops enough to render you independent. If a man's labour can clear half a dozen acres of the overshadowing timber in the time which it would require to clear one acre of roots and all, and that those six acres could be brought into immediate tillage, it follows that time would be misspent (in the first years of settlement,) in taking out those stumps. A native* would rather *clear* an acre than *fallow* one. Many prefer this new land to old cleared ground, on account of the great crops it produces; besides, in some few places the timber is so valuable, as in the *Otter* creeks, that land can be cleared for the price of the pines which grow upon it; and a heap of cordwood (which is 8 feet long, 4 feet high, and 4 wide) fetches in the neighbourhood of towns and villages, from six to seven shillings.

The land, as soon as the trees have been hauled off, can be planted with potatoes, or Indian corn, and the mode which you are to pursue is very simple: plant three cuts, six inches apart, with a hoe or

* It takes a long time to make an emigrant expert at felling trees; the dexterity of the Canadians is surprising. There is much imposition practised by the hired choppers. For the process of clearing, &c. &c. see *Radcliff's Letters*, p. 157.

spade, in holes $2\frac{1}{2}$ or three feet asunder, and as the potatoes grow up, hoe them up into hillocks: this is a plan which I have myself pursued with success, the mode differing only in this respect, viz. drawing furrows with a plough 3 feet one way, and then 3 feet across, planting the cuts at the points of intersection, and earthing them as they grow up, with a hoe, in mounds of one yard square. Your potatoes, if out of the ground in an early season, can be succeeded by wheat, harrowed in around the stumps; and spring sowing is but seldom practised.

The mode of sowing *Indian Corn* is to drop two or three grains of the seed into little holes made with a hoe, in the same way, but not altogether at such wide distances, as for potatoes. This corn is most valuable for man and beast; it makes (when ground) good pudding, used like stirabout or flumery with milk, and the meal is also made into cakes; you have seen and perhaps eaten some of this flour (imported from America) during very scarce seasons into our own country. The unripe ears are sometimes boiled and eaten like greens, with melted butter; it is a hardy vegetable, but requires to be hoed; this operation, however, prepares the land for succeeding crops of oats and clover, or wheat. It is fine food for pigs and oxen, and is one of the most essential crops for the settler. May is the season for sowing it, but it will not be too late in June; the stalks are very nourishing for cattle, and they are very fond of them. When ripe, in September, it is cut and saved in the following manner:—With either a sharp short handled hoe, or a sickle, in one hand, you put the other round a bunch, or what grows on one hill, and chop it off close to the ground, when it is set up into shocks of two or three armsful together, and a piece of stem rapped round the top to prevent their being blown down—after having stood a week or two, they are dragged round a centre, and the husks stripped from the ears by people sitting in a circle—the husks are thrown in a heap in the middle, and the

stalks tied into sheaves and again set into shocks, to remain till quite dry, before being stacked for fodder. The ears are picked up in baskets made for the purpose, put into waggons, and drawn to cribs made of small sappling poles, twelve or fourteen feet long, and notched and crossed at the ends by short ones four or five feet long, laid alternately to the height of six or seven feet, and covered over with a sheeting of boards laid with sufficient inclination one way to shoot off the rain. The corn ears are generally shelled by hand, but a much more expeditious way is to thresh them on a barn floor with a flail; one person will thresh twenty five bushels in a day.*

Pumpkins grow to a prodigious size: they are principally used for cattle feeding, as turnips are with us; they are sown among the Indian corn, which they do not injure—in giving them to cattle, salt is used. I have the seed of one which weighed 100lbs. and they often exceed this weight considerably.

The mode of sowing *Wheat* for the first two years on new land is very simple, merely harrowing in the seed. The hauling off the timber by oxen, sufficiently tears up the loose surface in the first year; and in the second, after burning the stubbles, the soil is also sufficiently friable for the harrow. Ploughing is resorted to for the third crop. An acre of wheat, producing from 25 to 35 bushels per acre, is worth from £5. to £8. at York. This grain is usually sown in the *fall*, a season corresponding with our autumn, but in Lower Canada it is always sown in spring, from the severity of the winter cold; and this circumstance alone must be a great disadvantage to the farmer in that province, who in a wet spring may find himself greatly embarrassed, and overwhelmed with work.

In almost every lot are portions peculiarly suited to certain crops, although the land may be capable

* Pickering.

of yielding any kind of crop usual in the country—for instance, the rich lands, by the sides of rivers, particularly those which are occasionally flooded, are ready with little, if any preparation, for Tobacco and Hemp, and other crops of this nature. Without first yielding some such crops of an exhausting quality, they would not produce corn, being too rank and strong.

Yet although premiums have been offered for the culture of Hemp,* I do not learn that much, if any, has been sown except in the Huron Territory, where Tobacco, as has been stated before, is cultivated to a considerable extent.

Now every man, woman, and child, who has had the happiness of reading the sixth or seventh edition of my first little volume of "Hints to small Farmers," knows my dislike to the culture of Tobacco in these Islands; but in the very rich lands of America, where the *climate* is suited to it, I waive all my objections—*there* it may be very profitable, and as long as people will smoke and use snuff, it must be grown somewhere—the farther away from Mrs. Doyle and me, however, the better.

Land which has been long in cultivation, in the older settlements of Lower Canada especially, is often to be seen under the same neat husbandry treatment for which Great Britain is so remarkable. In the Upper Province, however, and indeed upon all new land, the same attention which is paid in the latter country to the course of cropping is not observed, *Rye* being often sown after Wheat; immediate profit (as from necessity in Ireland) being the object, where food is wanted for present consumption, or the purpose of barter in exchange for labour; and where land is of little value, the utmost possible advantage must be taken. If after the *Rye* crop

* See Colonel Covert's address on the culture of Hemp, in the Appendix.

the farmer is pressed for land, he sows spring Wheat, Oats, Indian Corn or Pease, which last is rather an improving crop. After first clearing the land, *Turnips* and *Potatoes* answer remarkably well, the latter (the ground never being ploughed for the first crop after the clearing) are planted not in drills, but with a hand hoe.

Oats are sown in May or June, and are very good, and are worth 1s. 8d. per bushel.

Barley is not very good in Canada, nor is it much cultivated, though there is no reason why it should not succeed by the importation of better seed. It is principally used for the distillery, in which *Rye* forms a more profitable article, and this may be the cause of its being neglected.

Winter Barley (or *Bere*) is by far the best for *Malting*, and when breweries come to be more established, will be in great demand. When they become general, happy will it be for the Canadians, if they can be persuaded to make use of wholesome beer, instead of ardent spirits, (now alas! not dearer by the quart than malt liquor,) and to forsake their besetting sin—drunkenness. No man who indulges at home in this destructive habit, should trust himself as an emigrant to a country where the facilities of obtaining this destructive poison will repel all attempts at industry, and plunge him deeper and deeper in misery and ruin.

The *Swedish Turnip* is a valuable article for winter keep, and possessing a great proportion of saccharine matter, is most nutritious for all farming stock, particularly for horses. I have known a decayed old horse, whose teeth were not good enough to masticate oats, or even hay, without much difficulty, thrive and fatten upon Swedish Turnips. They are of a solid and unwatery nature, which resists frosts, but in the Canadian climate they must of course be drawn before the snow falls, and packed in houses securely for the winter. But as the fly is often injurious to Turnips, *Mangel Wurzel* is a preferable crop, after

cattle manure has been accumulated, if it were only to get rid of what is often considered an incumbrance, and thrown into the rivers and lakes, if near the farm yard. Mr. Ferguson heard of two farmers who built new stables and barns, to escape from an accumulation of despised manure.

The culture of *Artificial Grasses* is essential to the production of good winter fodder, in a country where hay from natural grass does not abound, except in the case of Beaver meadow hay, if that can be called natural which is really produced in the most *unnatural* and artificial manner by those most curious animals, the *Beavers*, who by a powerful instinct, and with heads that can only be exceeded by their tails, (which are their trowels) form an industrious community of masons, hod-carriers, and labourers, (I had almost said carpenters) for the construction of their houses and villages of brick work: and damming up the streams for the preparation of their bricks and mortar, produce thereby, for the occupier of the soil, a course water meadow, free of all cost and trouble.

The pastures of Canada being rank, coarse, and unsuited to sheep, it is considered desirable by experienced persons there, that the *Fescues* and other grasses adapted for this purpose should be more abundantly imported and sown. A chief meadow grass indigenous to that country, is considered of great value—the Timothy grass—in America termed *Herts*. It yields an abundant crop, and is preferred to other hay for horses.

With respect to general husbandry in Canada, no wise settler will speculate upon new modes unpractised there, until an experience of the climate, and an acquaintance with the circumstances of the country justify his departure from the ordinary track, and he will always act wisely by following in the steps of successful cultivators: not that I would recommend you to go on in the jog trot of others, unless sound judgment shall direct it, but I would have you com-

mence with prudence, and proceed with caution, and when experience shall have shown you defects in Canadian husbandry, avoid them, adopting in their place whatever methods your own good sense and discretion shall point out.

The rates and stipulations on which Land can be purchased in Upper Canada.

Out of the 18,116,800 acres British property in North America, about 7,000,000 have been from time to time granted to colonists; 4,805,400 acres are reserved for the crown and clergy, and of this reserve, a part has been lately sold to the Canada Company, and there remain disposable 5,011,400 acres within the townships. Now, out of this vast surface, the Upper Canada Company, which was incorporated in 1826, is in actual possession of 2,300,000 acres, of which, as has been already stated, 1,100,000 is in that most valuable district, the Huron Territory, where the Company, exclusively of their own liberal outlay in various ways, have a power of expending, out of the purchase money payable to Government, £45,000 in works of public utility, in the disbursement of which the working classes of emigrants will obtain lucrative employment—insuring present maintainance and the accumulation of capital towards paying off the small instalments, to which the purchase of land in that extensive and most fertile region are liable.

It appears by the “Report of the Court of Directors of the Canada Company,” that the sale of lands there *averaged* last year 6s. 9d. per acre. Those of the crown reserves, 9s. 7d. per acre. But from the increasing demand for lots of land in that part of the province, as well as elsewhere, it is probable that the average of the next year will be somewhat higher. But there, as every where else, the price must be regulated by circumstances, and increase where those

are peculiarly favourable. In the neighbourhood of Towns, and in the old Settlements, a much greater rate of purchase must of course be paid, especially to private individuals, who may have cleared lands, improved farms, or lots of building ground to dispose of, and where none but those who carry out *capital* with them to some extent, can think of fixing themselves as landed proprietors.

Building lots of a quarter of an acre, sell for forty dollars: at Guelph for instance, improved farms in its vicinity, with suitable buildings, bring from 15s. to 40s. per acre, which were sold a few years ago for 7s. 6d., 10s., and 15s. to the highest bidder.

Nor can any thing more strongly show the rapidity with which a prosperous settlement is formed in Upper Canada, than the following account of the building, &c. of this town of Guelph, which is situated on a branch of the river Ouse, or grand river of Lake Erie.

The operation of clearing the ground commenced on the 23d of April, 1827. The first building erected was a large house for the reception of settlers on their arrival; and as an encouragement to the early settlers, it was promised, on behalf of the Company, to set apart one-half of the prices obtained for town lots, as a fund for building a school house, and maintaining a school master; while sites for churches and burying grounds were given gratuitously to congregations of all religious denominations applying for the same. As a further inducement to early settlers, the price at first fixed for town lots of a quarter of an acre each, was twenty dollars, with the privilege to purchasers to take farms in the vicinity, of fifty acres each, at 7s. 6d. or one and a half dollar per acre. These prices, however, being insufficient to pay the expenses incurred by the Company, were subsequently raised, first to thirty dollars, and then to forty dollars, for town lots, and to 10s. and 12s. 6d. per acre for the farms; and at these different prices, according

to the respective dates at which the contracts were made, above 200 town lots, and 16,000 acres of land, had been engaged previously to the first of October, at which period seventy-six houses were built, or building—a saw-mill was in operation—a kiln of bricks was actually burning—a grist mill was in progress—a market house, two taverns, and several stores had been opened. Several tradesmen and mechanics had established themselves, and found advantageous employment—a temporary school house was regularly attended by above forty children; the foundation of a stone building for a permanent one had been laid; and a printing office was in preparation.

Settlers, with capital, who prefer establishing themselves on land on which partial clearings have been made, and log houses erected, will generally find lots with such improvements for sale. This arises from persons going originally in very destitute circumstances, or rather dependent on the Company's assistance, who, having succeeded on their lots, are willing to sell their land at a reasonable profit to new comers, from four to six dollars per acre, with the improvements on the same. These persons generally remove farther *westward*, and, having acquired sufficient knowledge of the country, make new purchases, upon which they may execute further improvements, and according to the extent of his *means*, each person can be accommodated—the poorest labourer, and the largest capitalist, will find proportional instalments. The man who can command a hundred pounds on his arrival, will be able to support his family in comfort—he pays down at first to the *Company* but one-fifth, that is, £20; the remainder by similar instalments, of one-fifth for each of four years more; and so liberal are the terms of the Company, that they will in future take the instalments, not in money, but in farming produce on the spot, and of course relieve the occupier, so far, from the cost and trouble of taking it to market.

Another advantage may be made available to the

purchaser, who, by making a deposit of any portion of the payment in London, will not lose the benefit of a current rate of exchange, in Upper Canada, which is sometimes as high as ten per cent.

In short, both individuals and associations of industrious emigrants are treated with on the most liberal terms, and may have the most extended credit—and, perhaps, advances made to them, as far as may be consistent with eventual security to the Company—and farms can also be rented for money or on *shares*, which means half the clear produce as rent,—thus the emigrant, according to his circumstances, may fix himself as a farmer.

But by what course, and at what expense, are you to reach this desirable land? I shall now tell you

How to arrive at Upper Canada, by New York, and at what cost.

| | Steerage. | Cabin. |
|--|-----------|---------|
| From Bristol to New York, | - £5 10 0 | £25 0 0 |
| — Liverpool, ditto, | - 5 0 0 | 30 0 0 |
| — Dublin, ditto, | - 4 10 0 | |
| — Cork, ditto, | - 4 10 0 | 20 0 0 |
| — Limerick, ditto, | - 4 10 0 | |
| — Sligo, ditto, | - - - | |
| — Londonderry, ditto, | - - - | |
| — Belfast, ditto, | - - - | |
| — Greenock, ditto, | - 5 10 0 | 25 0 0 |
| — New York to Albany, | - 0 6 9 | |
| — Albany to Buffalo Point, by Canal Boat | - 2 0 0 | |
| — Buffalo Point to any part of the Ca- nadian side, provisions included | 0 18 0 | |

For those to whom expense is not a *very* serious consideration, I recommend this passage—First, because the voyage is usually much shorter, the vessels on this course are much better and faster—the banks of Newfoundland are avoided, which is the

most dangerous part of the course, and the dangerous navigation of the St. Lawrence, with the probability of baffling head winds there, avoided.

Those to whom money is an important object, (even though they be of a higher class of Emigrants, suppose half-pay officers with their families, or gentlemen of limited means with two or three hundred pounds in their pockets,) will act wisely in not going out as cabin passengers; they can bargain for part of the steerage accommodation, partitioned off for themselves, and when they land, it will be better for them to have the cabin fare (a large sum if families are concerned,) in their pockets, for the purchase and improvement of estates—the money saved in this way, by a single individual, would purchase in fee, fifty acres of estate. And who in Upper Canada cares, or will ever enquire, whether the new colonist slept in one part or the other of the ship which brought him, and perhaps his wife and little ones, to the land of independence and peace; nor would a real gentleman be lowered in the estimation of any one but a fool, for economizing funds so essential to his future prosperity. But this route is not the best for the very *poor* emigrant, who must proceed in one of the vessels employed in the timber trade to Upper Canada, by Quebec. His limited means would not allow him to take the other course, and if his pockets were empty on his arrival at New York, he would probably suffer extreme distress, be taxed in the first instance for hospital purposes, in case of his becoming a burthen upon the States, where many of our poor have suffered most grievously. Besides, if he takes out Birmingham or other goods on speculation for sale, (and much money may be realized in this way) he is charged 30 per cent. on landing at New York—and again taxed* for the same articles if

* There is a drawback, however, on the duty paid on all baggage at New York, after passing the frontier into Canada.

he takes them on to Canada. But let us now have

The Rates by Quebec.

| | Steerage. | Cabin. |
|---------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| From Bristol to Quebec, - - | £4 10 0 | £15 0 0 |
| — Liverpool to ditto, - - | 4 0 0 | 15 0 0 |
| — Dublin to ditto, - - | 1 10 0 | 12 0 0 |
| — Cork to ditto, - - | 2 10 0 | 12 0 0 |
| — New Ross and Waterford to do. | 2 0 0 | 10 10 0 |
| — Limerick to ditto, - £2. to | 2 10 0 | 12 0 0 |
| — Sligo to ditto, - - | 2 10 0 | 12 0 0 |
| — Londonderry to ditto, - - | 1 10 0 | 12 0 0 |
| Belfast to ditto, - - | 1 10 0 | 10 10 0 |
| Greenock to ditto, - - | 3 10 0 | 15 0 0 |

Provisions for each adult from any of the English ports may be estimated for the poorest person, at £4. From Scotch ports, £3. 10s. From Irish ports, £1. 10s.*

For infants there is no charge, and for grown children only half price.

The average length of voyage to Quebec is from four to five weeks in spring, the proper time for the agricultural emigrant to go out, (mechanics will find employment at any season,) the shortest is performed in three weeks and the longest in ten weeks.

Provisions must be taken out for the longest period, as it would be very miserable, to one blessed with a good stomach, to have nothing to put into it during the latter weeks of a voyage lengthened by accidental circumstances.

Those who have been accustomed to use English diet, generally take with them biscuit, cheese, beef, pork, tea, potted herrings, split peas for soup, tea, sugar, flour, onions, porter, ale, and gin, mustard, vinegar, pepper, and milk—which last, after having

* The Steerage passage from Dublin was only £1 5s. last year, from the great competition among the Merchants there.

been boiled, should be carefully sealed up in jars, and if 1lb. of loaf sugar be added to it, there is no danger of its not keeping fresh during the voyage.

But the Irish and Highland Scotch, unaccustomed to so many good things, some of which they have, perhaps, never tasted in their lives, are usually content with a supply for each individual, consisting of 4st. of oatmeal, 4st. of cutlings for gruel, 4st. of biscuit, $\frac{1}{2}$ st. of sugar, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of tea, 4st. of butter, 20st. of potatoes, and a few dozen of eggs, which should be well greased, to exclude the air, and consequently preserve them fresh. I must add a *quart* or two of whiskey, for emergencies, and no considerate agent would recommend or allow a much greater quantity. Wooden noggins and trenchers, and tin porringers, are much better than delf-ware, which is so liable to be broken in a rolling sea, or by accident—a few simple cooking utensils are of course necessary.

As to dress, linen being dear in Canada, I advise you to take out as many shirts and shifts as you can, and a good supply of short jackets of light material, for summer use, with duck trowsers; and, for winter, strong *dreadnought great coats* and trowsers, plenty of woollen stockings, mittens, shoes, and a pair of leather gaiters; fur caps you will find necessary in winter, and much cheaper here than in Canada.

When the emigrant lands, he and his family are kindly looked to by the Company's Agents at Quebec, Montreal,* and New York, and will (if he contracts for land, and pays a first instalment at any of those places) be expeditiously conveyed, and free of expense, to the head of Lake Ontario; and if the emigrant does not eventually purchase land from the Company, his deposits are returned to him, after

* A Benevolent Society has been lately established at Montreal, to relieve and forward to the Western districts any distressed Emigrants who may unfortunately, from illness or other causes, be unable to proceed without aid.

deducting merely the expenses of his transmission to York ; a liberal measure, which has been received with much satisfaction in that country.

Such is the demand for labour there, that every person able and willing to work is sure of being employed at the high rates, and with the other advantages, which have been before enumerated.

It may be fairly stated that for £6. a single labourer will find himself at York ; and he may easily calculate the expenses of a *family* movement. *It is quite necessary, however, that each should be secure of having a small sum, say £2. on reaching his point of destination ;* this may be effected through the Agents, by a deposit at first made by the individual or his friends ; better than to trust it to the temptation of disbursement on the journey.*

CONCLUSION.

It is to be regretted that there are still vast portions of the Canadas unoccupied. Many of the crown-reserves, which form a seventh part of the land, have remained as waste, in the hands of Government, for more than thirty years. Now if we estimate the effect of their being so neglected, even in the case of a single lot of 200 acres, (the usual admeasurement of a distinct farm,) what a loss in point of revenue ! Had it become the settlement of an industrious family, what would it not have yielded in thirty years to the mother country—in consumption of its manufactures,—to the province, by the

* Much distress was experienced two years ago at Quebec, by a considerable number of Irish Emigrants, who arrived there pennyless ; their unfeeling landlords having paid their expenses no farther than that port, instead of furnishing them, (*through the Company's Agents*) with the means of proceeding to the Upper Province, where abundant employment awaited them.

increase of its productions and natural strength,—to its own immediate neighbourhood, by the support of the industrious, contributing at the same time to the healthiness of the surrounding farms, by the clearing of the forests!—What a prodigious loss, when the calculation is made, not on a solitary lot, but on 2,750,000 acres reserved for the crown and for the clergy, equal to 27,500 lots of 200 acres each. Some of these, it is true, are under lease, but the proportion is inconsiderable.

Since our last war with the United States, settlers from them, though a hardy and useful class of people, expert as axe-men, and industrious as farmers, ambitious of a competency, and peculiarly delighting in the labours of a new country, have not met any welcome from the provincial Governments—many of them would have made valuable subjects of Great Britain, as has been proved in the instance of Quakers from Pennsylvania, and American Germans from the States, accustomed to farming, who, in forming their settlement, brought along with them their cattle, waggons, horses, household furniture, and, of greater importance still—habits of morality, industry, and economy.

Nor would the numbers from the United States have been more than a fair proportion, to instruct the British colonists in their labours, for the United States present to their own labouring citizens too wide a field for their industry at home, to give cause for apprehension that they would leave their own boundaries in overwhelming numbers.

If wastes be unprofitable, how is the evil to be remedied?—By emigration,—and this is now most deservedly encouraged. Too rapid a multiplication need not be feared; the natural increase of the present population (about 250,000) can be but small, compared with the vast quantity of labour which so many millions of acres demand.

The number of tradesmen and labourers which will be required in the British colonies of North

America, cannot possibly be calculated: for, with all the zeal and energy of a new world rising into life, that country will probably continue to advance in improvement for many centuries to come. The clearing of land, building of houses, cutting of canals, and forming of roads, will employ countless multitudes.

It is the avowed intention of the Upper Canada Company (whose spirited proposals for the sale of farms, the rates of which I have already stated, and whose liberal plans for the accommodation of settlers I have also put forward) not to assist mere idle *speculators*, but to encourage the occupation of lands by a steady and industrious agricultural population! to individuals, or families of that description, well recommended from the Parent Country, they frequently make advances on security, for the cultivation of lots, until a crop shall be raised to repay the loan.

In no other country in the world can such comforts and advantages be obtained in exchange for labour and industry; but, at the same time, I do not recommend those who enjoy happiness and comforts at home, even with a life of toil, to emigrate on mere speculation; or from the love of change, to forsake the land of their birth and their affections. To such (as has been well observed) the epitaph "I was well—I would be better—here I am," would apply—it would be a mournful inscription on a headstone in a foreign land, expressive of the speculative folly and blighted hopes of the disappointed; but it fortunately and critically happens that the people most wanted are those who have no inducement to remain at home—the poorest classes, with rising families, able and willing to work, but unable to obtain employment: and this fact deserves observation, that since none are more averse from leaving their country than the Irish, nothing can more strongly prove the *fascination* of Upper Canada than the extensive emigration which (from the facilities afforded,

and the favourable reports of emigrants,) has taken place within the last three years from the Irish ports ; and it is likely to increase in future. Those with whom any change must be for the better, are the obvious subjects for emigration ; but to other and higher grades it is equally tempting ; to the farmer who cannot improve his capital, and has just enough to settle him safely there ; to the half-pay officer with an increasing family, and to the young and zealous Clergyman, who may have the means of purchasing a farm, and the ability to supply the spiritual wants of the settlers in his neighbourhood.

I have thus endeavoured to supply the Emigrant with the most necessary points of information to guide him to an economical, convenient, and prosperous Settlement. I have presented him with a concise and cheap book. Were it dearer, he might not wish to buy it ; and were it longer, he might not like to read it.

Within such limits, minute details cannot be expected ; but for its extent, I hope its communications will not be considered useless or unimportant ; they are the result of deep and anxious enquiry, from the latest and most approved authorities ; from intimate friends, prosperously settled in the country ; and from intelligent persons now here, and about to return to the scene of their successful improvements.

I trust that the Hints I have put together in the foregoing pages may be serviceable, especially to my own Countrymen ; and so impressed am I with the advantages which are offered to the Settler in Upper Canada, that were I not engaged in public and private duties, I would join the first merry-hearted set of Irish Emigrants in planting ourselves and our *potatoes* on one of the richest Townships in the Huron Territory.

APPENDIX.

Extracts from original and unpublished Letters.

1.

“ Brockville, June 10, 1827.

“ My dear Mother,

“ I am happy in having this opportunity of writing these few lines to you, hoping they will find you, with my sisters and brothers, in good health, as I am at present: thanks be to the Lord for it.

“ With regard to my voyage; we sailed from Passage, on the 13th of April, and landed in Quebec the 4th of May: we had a pretty favourable time of it, only one day and night unpleasant enough to make us wish ourselves in the old country again. I thank the Lord I did not get one hour's sickness since I left home as yet—not a soul on board could say the same. Dear Mother, I did not stop in Quebec as I intended: I found that the hire of a clerk is lower than that of a good labourer; besides I should serve two years apprenticeship, and learn two kinds of French. So I thought it better to go on and see my sister and friends, and all my old neighbours, and kindly they received me. Dear Mother, I am afraid you will blame me for what I have done. I have bound myself an apprentice to a joiner in Brockville, for three years: he is an eminent tradesman, and of good principles. He is allowing me 40*l.* for the three years, with every other accommodation. I have as good boarding as any man in Brockville, and am pleased with what I have done. With regard to the country, it is, in my opinion, a great deal

better than Ireland. The land in general is very good, and not as hard to be cleared as you may think. I have seen as good corn and meadowing as ever I saw in Ireland; and mountains of dung not made any use of. Every stone you would see is limestone. And there is plenty of marl—and none made use of. They can plant potatoes, and have them excellent for table in seven weeks.—Barley in like manner. The apples, plums, cherries, gooseberries, currants, and grapes of all kinds, grow naturally in the woods. Yet I would not encourage any person to come here, for fear of any thing happening to them. Let any who can live without working at home, stay at home; but for him who can labour, this is the best country; he will get from 20l. to 30l. a-year. Tradesmen of all descriptions ought to come here: a blacksmith, if he is able to work on his own account, can earn from 6 to 8 dollars a-day; otherwise a dollar a-day. Joiners, tailors, and shoemakers, 7s. 6d. a-day. Samuel Hendrick and his family are doing well; he has 200 acres of good land, and twenty of it cleared. He has 8 acres of wheat (and better I never saw) and 2 acres of potatoes, and kitchen vegetables, &c. George has half the land and two parts of the stock: he is an endeavouring and well respected fellow. * * * are doing well.

“ Remember me to * * *

“ Your ever affectionate son,

“ *Thomas Graham.*

“ *To Mrs. Elizabeth Graham, Clondaw,
Near Enniscorthy, Ireland.*”

2.

FROM THE SAME TO THE SAME.

“ June 10th, 1828.

“ Dear Mother,

“ I received your affectionate letter, and am happy to hear that you were all in good health, as I am and have been ever since I came to this country; thanks be to the giver of all goodness.

“ I remain with Mr. Reynolds still, and am doing very well. Last January I was offered 100 dollars a-year, if I would leave my master; but I would not accept it: so you may judge I have made pretty good use of my time. My master is a sober religious man, and he takes great pains to instruct me in my duty to God, as well as my trade; so I hope it was the Lord who put courage into my heart to leave Ireland. With respect to diet, it is always good here; no difference in this respect from one end of the year to the other. * * * John Morris and his family are doing well; he has bought a farm from his brother, and says that he is now settled for life. As to * * * he is doing but middling—he has good wages, but they are not enough for him, as he is greatly given to drink, and debases himself in consequence. * * * Men must labour very hard here: but they are well fed and well paid; and what a man has is his own: there is no landlord or tyrant to reign over them. Men who came here some years ago, have large clearances now, and are taking their ease. The chief objection folks have to this country, is the want of pleasures, but these are vanities. This country answers well for young men, or men with grown up families; by industry they will have peace and plenty. * * * Gold is the most profitable to bring here. * * * With regard to the climate, as far as I can judge, it is quite temperate: last winter was the finest winter I have ever seen; there was a keen frost, but no wet or wind, nor much snow; so that it was quite pleasant. Neither is there any intense heat. I have not felt as warm days as in Ireland last summer. The *fall* and spring are the disagreeable seasons. * * * I am making great way in my trade, and if God spares me, I hope to do better than ever you could provide for me in Ireland. I am sorry that poor Sam settled himself there, for this is a better country for industrious people. Land is getting pretty dear here in the settled parts, but yet there is room, and many chances of which there are none in Ireland. I wonder why folks think so hard of leaving that distressed country; surely it is only a few weeks journey. Dear Mother, I would be glad to see you all coming here, where you could nourish

yourselves with the fruits of your labour: but choose for yourselves. If I was as Joshua and Sam, and knowing as much of this country as I do, I would sell out all, and stay no longer labouring under the heavy yoke. With a little money and my industry I could possess more property here in three or four years than I could ever have in Ireland, and I could call it my *own*. If some of Michael Redmond's sons, or some more of those brave boys would venture here, they would do well: but I suppose this will be sore news to some of their people. * * * E. K. was going to get married last June, but unfortunately her spark got drowned a few days before the time. * * * It is useless to bring much fine clothes here, they are almost as cheap as in Ireland."

3.

"York, Upper Canada, April 2, 1830.

"My dear Friends,

"We received your kind letter, dated April, in June, from which we understand that my mother died in March last; and though we have natural feelings like other people, yet we dare not complain, but must say that He who gives, has the same right to take away, and must consider it to be a loud call to ourselves, saying, 'be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh.' * * *

"North America altogether is in a prosperous way, and I have no doubt but it will continue to prosper more and more; but people who come here must not expect to see a clear and improved country like England, for you know England is a small stock of country, and an old improved one; but this is a large stock of country, newly settled, and comparatively unimproved, and roads bad, in consequence of which, it has a wild appearance to an Englishman just arrived, and whoever comes hither must make himself acquainted with the ways and manners of the people, and not expect the people of America to comply with his manners and customs. * * * If they can be patient for a while and look about them, they will in general find that they can do better here than there.

You wish me to give you my opinion, which is the best place to come to, the United States or Canada? to which I would answer, farmers who come to Canada I think will do better than they would in the United States; first, because farms can be more easily obtained in Canada than in the States; secondly, because Canadian wheat and flour have the preference in the English and West India markets: and in consequence of which, produce is generally at a higher rate in Canada than in the States. Mechanics can do as well here as there, and labourers likewise. Manufacturers might do better in the States than here, but I would advise manufacturers or workers in factories, (cloth, cotton, or silk,) not to depend on getting into their different branches of business in America. People coming to Canada can always find a way to turn themselves, and do well if they are careful and steady, and I think the climate here is better adapted to Englishmen than is that of the United States. * * * When you write, pay the postage to Liverpool, and write 'Via New York' on the letter; I shall receive it in half the time, and at a less expense, than by the Falmouth Mail or Packet.

"We remain, &c. &c.

"*John and Martha Deal.*"

4.

"Yarmouth, August 9, 1830

"Dear Parents,

"I suppose that by this time a letter from me will not be very unwelcome, particularly when I inform you that I have no doubt of doing very well. In my last letter I quite forgot to tell you, that we saw no ice on our voyage; as soon as our vessel came to the wharf at New York, there came several persons on board to inquire for servants; we were also asked as we passed the streets, if we knew of any English people who wished to obtain servants' places, either men or women. We also saw many who were about to return to England again, from whom I endeavoured to gain all the information they could give me respecting the country, and their reasons for leaving it; and from all, I had every reason

to conclude, that it was intemperance or home sickness that made them dissatisfied with America. * * * * Old Mr. G—— told us they were as happy as the day was long; they only grieved sometimes to think when they sat down to a well supplied table, and reflected that perhaps many whom they well knew at home, were in want of what in this country is thrown away. I have seen the heads of cows and sheep thrown out for the dogs, and calves' heads too. Mr. G—— says, they have every thing they want to make them happy and comfortable, and are saving money; they had no doubt that all who came could do well here; but they never would persuade any, as there are some who do not like the country. I did not like New York, because it was so hot; I could have had plenty to do if I had staid there. I inquired respecting Mr. C——, and was informed that he was doing very well, and that he had agreed with a Captain in New York to bring over his family, of which I suppose before this you have heard. We left New York on the 15th of June, and went on board a steam boat, and arrived at Albany, 160 miles in 18 hours, for 4s. 6d. each. We then engaged with a Captain of a tow boat to take us to Buffalo, a distance of 363 miles, for 11s. 3d. each, in your money. From Buffalo we had to cross Lake Erie about 3 miles to Port Erie, in order to take ship to go to Kettle Creek, 150 miles.

“A Quaker gentleman who had come up with us from Port Erie, on a visit to his friends at Yarmouth, 9 miles distant, had been there, and informed them that a shoemaker was come, and a son of a farmer accompanied him with a light waggon to bring us and our luggage to Yarmouth, as a shoemaker was wanted there very badly. We remained at farmer K——'s eight days, where we received all the kindness imaginable. We are at present living in a large school-room, (which is not used in the summer,) as there is no house vacant; there will be one in about two months, which, if I stay here, I may have with two acres of land to it, for three shillings per month. I see plainly there will be work enough if I had two or three hands. I have a great deal more now than I can do, and they tell me there will be more after harvest;

but there is no possibility of getting hands; the inhabitants are all farmers, they kill their own meat, get their skins tanned and curried, so that they find their own leather. I had 13s. 6d. for making a pair of Wellington boots, which will go nearly as far again in provision here as at home; the price for men and women's shoes is alike 4s. 6d. for light, and 3s. 6d. for stout ones; they find their own thread too, so that I have nothing to get but wax and hairs; nor have I anything to do with finishing off the uppers. As I save money now very fast, I shall soon be able to buy my own leather, which will be more profitable. At the same time, I am not satisfied with this situation, as there is no meeting within three miles of us, except the Quakers', and they only have it once on a Sunday. They are nearly all Quakers here; they are very kind indeed; they all want us to visit them. We have as much as we like for fetching of potatoes, French beans, cucumbers, peas, onions, &c. in great abundance, from any of the neighbours, with a hearty welcome. The best mutton is 2½d. per pound, veal 2d.; tea and sugar full as cheap again as at home, butter 6d. I tell you the price of every thing in English money, to prevent mistakes. Taxes here are very light; Mr. K—— owns 200 acres, has a considerable live stock, and all the tax he pays is thirteen shillings annually. We have all, through mercy, enjoyed excellent health ever since we have been here; the climate is perhaps a little warmer here than at home, but I do not find a very great difference. Flour, I should have said, is hardly three farthings per pound, potatoes 4½d. per peck now, but they will be cheaper soon, it is expected. The inhabitants of this place are principally from the States; they say it is decidedly better here: their land is from 9s. to 18s. per acre. There are several Englishmen here. Farmer D—— took us up to Southwold, to see Mr. A——, 17 miles hence, without charge. Mr. A—— likes the country better than he could have expected, and says he would not leave it for any money, and indeed all who came over with us, like it very well. We should be extremely happy if there were a meeting near us. I want to be at Frome on Sundays, and here other days. Now I hope you will make up your minds to come, and

bring with you a number of truly religious people, and among them an humble preacher. I have no doubt but that much good in a spiritual way might be done, for those who are not Quakers say they wish there was preaching here, as they do not like to go to the Quakers' meeting. There is no doubt but all industrious persons who come will do well: the people here wonder that more do not come. We were told at New York, that 7000 had landed there in about 4 or 5 weeks, and 200 families have landed at this creek this summer: but they are lost almost as a drop in a bucket. From all the information I can gain, there is not the shadow of a doubt but that all who are willing to work, can get plenty of work, and good pay. Mechanics, they say, are wanted very badly. I have no doubt but after we are a little more settled, we shall be able to save 30 shillings per week; but you have heard there is but little money here—wheat is considered the same as money. When I make a pair of shoes for a person, he asks me at what mill I will have my wheat lodged: I tell him: he then takes it, and brings me a receipt. I have then to say whether I mean to sell or have it ground for my own use; if I sell it, I can get cash for it by waiting about a month; this is the way the trade of this country is carried on. But it is a growing country, and money gets more plenty every year. We are a great deal more comfortable than we expected to be, in so short a time. I want to advise you all to come, for here we are all free from anxiety as to getting on. But the difference between having and not having religious privileges is so great, that I cannot conscientiously persuade you to come, till I can fix on a place where they are more happily blended with temporal ones, unless you could bring, as I have before hinted, a number of Christians, which would consummate our happiness. I should be happy to hear that two or three thousand were coming from home, as it would be the best thing in the world for them: there would be plenty for them to do, and a plenty to eat and drink; in this there is no mistake. I seem to want to tell this, that, and the other story about men who came without a single shilling, but have now good farms of their own; but they would be so numerous, I can only say that all the good accounts I have read of America, I believe to be correct. I

should like you to send me word what day and month you receive this, that I may know how long it was on the passage. I hope you do not entertain the melancholy idea of never meeting again. I have no doubt of it. But I must now conclude with our sincere love.

“ We remain, dear Parents,

“ Most affectionately yours,

“ *J. and M. T——* ”

5.

“ Dundas, September 3, 1830.

“ Dear Friends,

* * *

“ Health is a beautiful thing,

and it depends on God to give it, for were it in the hands of man, health would decline, as many other things have in England: such as labour and victualling; which, if God gives us our health, is quite plentiful with us. We have plenty of good beef and mutton, flour, pork, fish, fowl, and butter, and by one day's work a man can supply himself with these necessaries sufficient for three days. You have a good many cold bellies to go to bed with, or things are greatly altered since I was with you; but here, if you choose, your belly would be so warm for three halfpence, that you would not know the way to bed. I will give you the outlines of our voyage * *

We were landed on the 8th of June, at Quebec, and then agreed with the Canada Company to go to Guelph (which is a new township, about 700 miles from Quebec) to take land.

* * * Harvest work is one dollar a day with board, other work three-fourths of a dollar. A woman who goes out to washing, half a dollar a day and board. Women who can work well with the needle, earn good wages. * *

Beef and mutton sell for 2d. and 3d. per lb. * * *

Henry, you may depend upon it that all this is true, so that you see here is all the chance in the world for a poor man to live. * * *

“ Your loving cousin,

“ *Wm. Snelgrove.* ”

6.

“ Nelson, November 14th, 1830.

“ Sir,

“ I write these lines to you, hoping to find you in good health as it leaves us at present, thank God for it. I am happy to state that we are in a good country for poor folks; we have plenty of good fire and grog—wheat, 4s. per bushel; good boiling peas, 3s. 6d.; rye, 3s.; buck wheat, 2s. 6d.; Indian corn, 2s. 6d.; oats, 2s.; potatoes, 1s. 3d. We are not in the habit of raising much barley, nor beans. Rum, 10d. per quart; good whiskey, 7½d. per quart; brandy, 1s. 9d.; port wine, 1s. 3d.; tea, 3s. 6d. per pound; we make our own sugar out of maple trees; we make our own soap and candles; bake good light bread without barm. Beef, 2d. per pound; mutton, 2d.; pork, 2½d.; fat geese, 1s. 6d.; best fowls, 1s. 3d. per couple. Wages, 3l. per month and our keep; we dine with our masters. Women, 2s. 6d. per day, and good keep. Price of land is about 1l. per acre near the roads; some back is cheaper. We have no poor rates nor taxes of any consequence. We hear of war in France, and a new King in England. I see in the paper the great lamentation of our departing from Chapmanslade; more need to rejoice. We three brothers have bought 200 acres of land, at 12s. 6d. per acre, 125l.; we have paid 25l. and we have got to pay 100l. in five years, that is 20l. a year, between three, that is 6l. 13s. 4d. each, and pay off in five years; it is in Nelson, district of Gore, with a pretty good road to our lot, only nine miles from the Lake Ontario—a good sale for all grain—a grist mill and a saw mill within about 25 chains, which is a great advantage. A good river runs right through our lot of land, and good springs rise on it—we shall never want for water; we have several adjoining houses, chiefly of English people. We shall never want timber nor water. We can raise up a good house in a little while, at little expense; we have thousands of tons of timber, and good stone for building. It is called the healthiest place in Upper Canada;

we have no sickness since we have been here, and are stouter than we were in England. But there are many who were sick at first. We should be very happy to see all our friends here, old and young, if they could; we are providing a home. Sarah would be glad to see all her friends here, but does not wish to go back. If any should come, we should be glad to have brought some cabbage seeds of early kinds. Hazel nuts, all kinds of kernels, or grafts, pears, plumbs, cherries, gooseberries, thorn berries, and turnip seed, carrot seed, leek seed, we should be glad to have brought. Bring hooks, hatchets, scythes, reaping-hooks, and fire irons; but no wood. We expect to clear 20 acres by next harvest; we cut the trees about three feet above ground, and put fire to it, and burn it root and branch if we can. I have sent two letters before; I should like to have one from you. Thomas Hunt is in good health; had no sickness by sea nor land. We are about seven hundred miles from Quebec; that is but little here. James and Jemima Hunt never wish to return to England, but wish that all our friends were here; for here is plenty of work, and plenty to eat and drink. We all wish that our fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters were here, for there is plenty of room for all there is in England. They that think to work may do well, but if our fathers and mothers were here, they should never be obliged to do a hard day's work, for we would keep them without work, if they were not able. But if any of you should, I would wish you to make up your minds beforehand, not to be faint hearted; you may expect rocking, but I don't fear the raging seas, for perhaps more may come as safely as we, for the God that rules the land, rules the sea; it may be that one might have a long passage, but they see something wonderful every day: such fish! the sights will be worth their passage. There are some that came here this year, turned back before they knew whether 'tis good or bad. But thank God that we are here.

“J. and J. Hunt.

“Nelson, District of Gore, Upper Canada,
North America.”

7.

“North Branch of Talbot, Dec. 10, 1830.

“Dear Brothers and Sisters,

* * * “We landed here last July, and like the country well. We are settled about two miles from Silcox. Clements and I have bought 100 acres of land between us. I have cleared on my share about 25 acres for 70*l.*, and have paid down for the purchase 12*l.* 10*s.* and the remainder I have five years to pay it. I have a house and barn ready to go into. S. is hired by the year for 12*l.* 10*s.* with board and lodging. *Men's* wages are from 3*s.* to 5*s.* a day, take the year round, with board. Clements and I cut, threshed, and winnowed in four days, 84 bushels of peas; and for our wages got 21 bushels, besides our board. Wheat here sells for 3*s.* the bushel; peas, 2*s.* 10*d.*; oats, 1*s.* 3*d.*; Indian corn, 2*s.* 10*d.* We have a very healthy country. If any of you have any notion of coming here, be sure to provide *strong* boxes, as ours went all to pieces before we got half way. Whatever earthenware you have, pack among your clothes in your boxes. * * * Farmers live well here, as they have all they can make, and no rents to pay, and but very little taxes—for 200 acres of land, with stock and improvements, *twelve shillings* will pay them. Josiah, if you can, bring a good set of carpenter's tools, picks, prongs, door hinges, hooks, a good hay-knife, rings, wedges. Tell Rhoda and Tabitha to bring me a good hay-cutting knife, and tell brother Nathan or Noah to send me the iron of the lathe. Tell brother Elisha not to come by way of Quebec, as New York is much cheaper and safer; you can come by water within seven miles of this.

“Believe us to be, your affectionate Brother and Sister,

“*Esau and Elizabeth Prongley.*”

8.

“York, Upper Canada, Jan. 29, 1831.

“Dear Brothers and Sisters,

* * * * “I have got a shop, and sell all kinds of pastries and groceries; we are doing very well. Tell Ben-

jamin to learn the pastry business well, and to come here, where it is a very profitable business. I like America very well, but should like it much better if you were all here ; make up your minds and come to us : don't fear crossing the sea, for when you are started you will think of it no more than crossing the Thames. * *

“ This is a flourishing place, a new English Church is to be built here this next spring ; two Presbyterian Chapels, and two Methodist ones ; a new College is also to be built, as large as Cambridge ; Parliament House and Prison ; a large Hospital ; there are five large steam boats on the lake, and one of two hundred horse power, which will be finished next spring. More emigrants will be coming next year than ever. Good land is sold with timber upon it for 10s. per acre. Good beef at 2d. and 2½d. per lb., a good goose for 1s. 3d., a fowl for 7½d., flour 4½ dollars per barrel, which weighs 196 pounds, which is 1½d. per pound ; potatoes, 1s. per bushel ; apples, 2s. per bushel ; beer, 1½d. per gallon ; whiskey, 7d. a quart ; brandy, 1s. 6d. ; gin, 1s. 3d. ; rum, the same. I only wish you were here, to live as we do : we want for nothing ; but when we sit down, to think how they are all starving at home, it gives me the horrors, especially my poor father and mother. I hope my dear brother James will not let them want, and tell them I hope in the course of a little time, I shall be able to send him something in return, as we are doing well. My dear Sister, I hope you will oblige me, and send this letter to Frome, as soon as you have read it, as John Hill is coming, and we long to see him ; and John Hill I hope will help my brother Henry out, and be not afraid, for we will pay you his expenses when you get here, and we will do every thing in our power to assist you. Be sure to bring Martha out with you, and we will give her plenty of bacon ; tell Henry to bring two donkeys with him for breeding, for they are so valuable here, that you can get 50l. for them when you get here ; a man brought two with him lately, and was offered 50l. for them, and would not take it. Tell John Hill* to come with all speed, for he will do better here than ever he

* This man and his family, consisting altogether of 14 persons, left Frome, for Canada, very lately.

did in England, and be sure to bring a good gun, for you need not be afraid of shooting, for this is the place to live in. I wish my father and mother would venture to come; we would keep them as long as they live, and keep them comfortable. John, when you arrive, I hope we shall have a merry meeting; tell my brothers, John, William, and James, that carpenters have a capital trade here all the year round, and basket makers would soon get a good fortune; all trades are very good indeed, and God send you all out with speed. Go to Samuel Stint and tell him to come directly, and tell Stint to go to Mr. Gillet and tell him to come here, for stonework is plenty; there is more work going on than we can tell them. Tell my brother John if he will come, he can do well here; but if he cannot raise the means to come at present, I hope in the course of another year we shall be able to help him. When you come, you had better come by New York than come by the Canal. Bring some good sharp apples, lemons, beer and cider, cheese and onions, pickled cabbage and vinegar, those are the particular articles you will want.

“Dear Sister, as soon as you receive this letter, let Benjamin copy it and send it to Frome, as John Hill, his wife and family, are coming out as soon as they receive it; bring out some lace and net for caps, and needles of different kinds. When you come, you must come to York, Upper Canada, and enquire for Young-street, near Dulchee’s foundry.

“Your affectionate Brother and Sister,
George and Anne Carpenter.”

“To Mr. Henry Beelbeck, 2 Adam’s-row,
 Hampstead-road, London.”

9.

“Back-street, Southwold, 15th March, 1831.

‘My Dear Father,

“As it is now nearly twelve months since I left Corsley I thought I would write you a few lines, to inform you how I am situated, and what’s my opinion of this country. When I

first came to Quebec, I felt desirous of going through the country up to Mr. J. Silcog's; I found my means very small, as I had 900 miles to go. I got my sister a good place of service, and as some of her acquaintance stopped there, she seemed very willing to stay. I then borrowed some money of Jerry Annett; we both set off for Upper Canada together. We were eight weeks and three days coming to Quebec, and four weeks coming to Southwold. I then went to work for Mr. Silcog four months, and Jerry Annett worked on the next farm. I have worked some at my trade; a person that can work well can get a dollar and a half per day, and in the harvest field we can get a dollar per day. I like this part of the country very well; I intend staying here this summer; I design working at my trade. I have been working on a farm; chopping, and other work; but I have been very unfortunate, I've cut myself four or five times: I cut my hand in the summer, whilst mowing with Meredith Orman, on Mr. Silcog's field; I cut my foot very bad four weeks ago, it is not well yet. I cut two of my toes off; Mr. Silcog sewed them on again; they seem to be getting on very well, considering the time. You must not think that I dislike the country on account of my misfortunes, for if I was to cut my leg right off, I should not think of returning to Corsley again, for I could do much better here with one leg than in Corsley with two: there is plenty of hard work here, we can always have plenty to do; we board and lodge with the persons we work for. I am chopping now for Mr. Allworth, on his farm, joining Mr Silcog's. If any of my old acquaintances have got tired of being slaves and drudges, tell them to come to Upper Canada, to William Singer, bricklayer; he'll take them by the hand and lead them to hard work, good wages, and the best of living. If James and George Moore, Thomas Hopkins, Thomas Batcher, Isaac Cuff, Mr. Tyler, blacksmith, or any others, with yourself and my uncle, should like to come out, I'm sure any of them could do well here; I should like you and the family to come out, for you would do much better here. Old George Silcog likes the country very well, but if any one was coming out, he wished you to bring a cask of James Knight's strong beer, as we can't get any so good here; we can get whiskey

at about half a dollar per gallon, as strong as the gin you get in England; if any one was coming out, I should be glad if you would send me a plaistering trowel, as we can't get any here. I could have earned a good many dollars more, if I had got one; I should be glad to see you all here, but if you do not like to come yourself, I should like you to send my eldest brother out, as I could do much better for him than he could do at home. I hope all the family is well, likewise all my acquaintances and friends.

“William Dredge is at Dundas, about 100 miles from me; his wife died about two months ago. We have eight English families in about two miles, all from Corsley and Westbury; they are all well, and doing well; they are all very busy making sugar; this part of the country is very fine. The winter has been more than commonly severe, but I've not found it colder than in England. I should like you to send me a letter as soon as you can, filled with the news of your country. I hope you look well to the children, as they have got no mother, or any one but you to look to; let my grandmother know, if she is living, and my cousins at Westbury, that I am well.

“William Moody told me he was coming out, but I have seen nothing of him; he had better come; his trade is as good as money making here. I shall conclude, by hoping you and all the family are well; and assuring you that I remain your loving son,

“*William Singer.*”

“To Mr. John Singer, Bricklayer,
Corsley, England.”

Note—I have taken no liberty with the foregoing Letters, except in a few cases that of improving the orthography.

M. D.

TABLE shewing the Highest, Lowest, and Mean Temperature of each Month, in UPPER and LOWER CANADA, during the year 1820. Latitude about 42° north in Upper Canada, and latitude 45° north, or thereabouts, in Lower Canada.

| THERMOMETER—FAHRENHEIT. | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|---------------|-------|---------------|---------------|-------|--|
| 1820. | UPPER CANADA. | | | LOWER CANADA. | | | |
| | Maxi- mum. | Mini- mum. | Mean. | Max- imum | Mini- mum. | Mean. | |
| January, - - | 48 | -20 | 18.17 | 33 | -23 | 11.14 | |
| February, - - | 50 | 8 | 23.87 | 40 | -29 | 10.69 | |
| March, - - - | 52 | 0 | 26.94 | 47 | -26 | 12.13 | |
| April, - - - | 83 | 40 | 59.70 | 81 | 9 | 48.91 | |
| May, - - - - | 92 | 40 | 67.32 | 92 | 30 | 67.84 | |
| June, - - - - | 97 | 57 | 77.51 | 95 | 55 | 76.34 | |
| July, - - - - | 103 | 60 | 81.37 | 103 | 62 | 82.23 | |
| August, - - - | 99 | 55 | 73.24 | 100 | 58 | 74.7 | |
| September, - - | 92 | 33 | 64.45 | 90 | 30 | 59.16 | |
| October, - - - | 74 | 28 | 48 | 55 | 9 | 32.24 | |
| November, - - - | 54 | 10 | 34.53 | 40 | -13 | 17.44 | |
| December, - - - | 41 | -2 | 25.43 | 43 | -21 | 11.94 | |
| For the Year, - - - | 73.8 | 25.72 | 48.37 | 68.25 | 11.75 | 42.1 | |
| For the Summer Months } June, July, August, } | 99.66 | 57.33 | 77.37 | 99.33 | 58.33 | 77.54 | |
| Winter Months, - - - | 46.33 | -4.67 | 22.49 | 38.66 | -24.33 | 11.25 | |

From a Parliamentary Document it appears that Emigration to the CANADAS, during a period of Nine Years, has been very considerable :

| Years. | British North American Colonies. | British West Indies. | Cape of Good Hope. | New South Wales, Van Dieman's Land and Swan River. | Total. |
|--------|----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--|-----------------|
| | No. of Persons. | No. of Persons. | No. of Persons. | No. of Persons. | No. of Persons. |
| 1821 | 12,470 | 1,772 | 404 | 320 | 14,966 |
| 1822 | 11,282 | 1,423 | 192 | 875 | 13,772 |
| 1823 | 8,133 | 1,911 | 184 | 543 | 10,771 |
| 1824 | 7,311 | 1,353 | 119 | 780 | 9,563 |
| 1825 | 8,741 | 1,082 | 114 | 485 | 10,422 |
| 1826 | 12,818 | 1,913 | 116 | 903 | 15,750 |
| 1827 | 12,648 | 1,156 | 14 | 715 | 14,633 |
| 1828 | 12,084 | 1,211 | 135 | 1,056 | 14,486 |
| 1829 | 13,907 | 1,251 | 197 | 2,016 | 17,371 |

With respect to the numbers who went to the Canadas in the last year, we have the following article :

“ We are assured by the Quebec Gazette of the 2d of November, that nearly 50,000 emigrants had arrived out during the present year. This great mass of persons, we know from private sources, readily found work ; or, in the phraseology of the country, they had been absorbed. We cannot but think this a matter of congratulation ; it assures us the unemployed labouring poor of this country may safely and wisely be encouraged to emigrate at a cheap rate to a land which will at once give them employment and the means of a liberal subsistence ; and as a convincing proof how advantageously such emigration will work for the benefit of the mother country, we are enabled to state that 170,000 quarters of wheat have this season been shipped at Quebec for England, as well as 50,000 barrels of flour. These shipments, of course, were the produce of the harvest in 1830 ; the harvest of 1831 was not ready for market, and though the harvest has been gathered in, and was not a bad one, yet it was calculated it would not offer for exportation next year, a larger quantity of grain than has been shipped this present season. It is true a greater breadth of land was sowed this season, but the harvest generally has not been so productive, particularly in Lower Canada, where the common red wheats are produced ; but of the white wheats, which are the production of Upper Canada, a full quantity had been gathered in. The price of the Upper Canada white wheat at Quebec was from 6s. 3d. to 6s. 6d. per bushel, and of the Lower Canada, or red wheat, from 5s. 6d. the minot, (the minot contains about half a gallon more than the bushel,) but as it does not come so clean to market as the produce of the Upper Provinces, it may be safely quoted at 5s. 8d. the bushel. The quantity of ashes shipped this year is 50,000 barrels. As a proof that the landing 50,000 strangers at Quebec had produced no distress, we are enabled to state, that the emigrant hospital, which will hold but 150 distressed objects, was not full. We have said that 50,000 emigrants have been landed this year at Quebec ; we should also state that many thousands are landed who are not registered.”—*Courier of the 12th December—(From Hampshire Telegraph.*

Colonel Covert's Address to the Northumberland Agricultural Association on the culture of Hemp.

Gentlemen,

It gives me pleasure to be a member of this Agricultural Society, instituted for the improvement and prosperity of the country; a society whose province it is, both to give and receive information on all agricultural purposes. Being requested by several persons now present, as well as from other local circumstances, to give my opinion on the growth of hemp in this district, I feel great satisfaction in recommending its culture to your notice. From the fair trial and successful experiments I made last year of the plant, and the advantages likely to accrue to this Province from the manufacture and demand of the article, I should think it a subject which well merits the attention of every agricultural society. From a treatise I am about to publish on hemp, I trust before long, to show the landowners of this Province, both by precept and example, that the adoption of this mode of husbandry will produce us a large return, and upon an average remunerate us better than any other crop on our farms. In speaking on the subject, I may take this opportunity of giving publicity to the kind intentions of the government towards us, as well as to refute the misrepresentations of a few persons who have sought to prejudice the farmer against the cultivation of hemp.

Gentlemen, in a national concern of great importance, our zeal must not be damped by the tergiversations and feeble opposition of a few selfish individuals. In an honorable transaction, and the improvement of our agricultural pursuits, our motives must be considered good, and will be well appreciated by a liberal and discerning public. It is at these our public meetings, that candour and fair argument will prevail—it is here that any system of husbandry may be discountenanced, or approved of and recommended.

We find the hemp plant is indigenous to the Canadas, the soil being friendly to its growth. From the good quality of the crops I raised last year, I am satisfied that hemp of the best kind may be successfully cultivated on our lands; for which we have a sure and ready market to any extent. I am aware that in all new undertakings there may be some hazard of success; we have old habits and prejudices to overcome; different interests to reconcile; but that ordeal is passed, and that risk I first took on myself, that I might mislead no one. I am happy to say, that although I had to contend with many difficulties and impositions, yet the result has been favorable, and the enterprise crowned with success.

With a view to facilitate and encourage the growth of hemp by our landowners, I built some hemp mills, and provided the farmer with good seed—and although we had an unfavourable season, our crops on good land were excellent, averaging about a ton to every three acres. I feel then confident that when the process and advantage of the hemp husbandry is better understood, it will by degrees become popular and be more generally sown. While we read of the “march of intellect” in other parts of the globe, of their new inventions and various improvements, are the Canadas alone, with a soil and climate in their favour, to remain stationary? are we only to toil for a bare living on our farms? But to proceed—Gentlemen, this province, so fruitful in its resources, seems to further require a produce and a valuable raw material suitable to the English market and of demand in Europe; which shall enrich the farmer and afford us that circulating medium so much wanted among us. From the observations and calculations which I have made, I have reason to believe the general cultivation and manufacture of hemp in the Canadas would in time effect this grand object, and at the same time, much raise this colony in the estimation of the mother country and the mercantile world.

The strength and quality of the hemp grown here last season has been satisfactory, and a sample of it, which I had the honor of presenting to the Lieutenant Governor at my mills, was forwarded to Commodore Barry at Kingston, who pronounced it to be as good as the Riga or Peterboro' hemp.

On this assurance the British government have offered to spend from £100,000 to £200,000 a year with this Colony in the purchase of good hemp, if we will but grow the article and earn the money. I myself have received an order for twenty tons, at £50 the ton. It seems then, gentlemen, to rest with the landowners whether we shall avail ourselves of the friendly offers of the mother country towards us—should we hesitate? can we do better? If we take into consideration the number of cultivated acres of land in this Province, and every farmer would sow a sixteenth part of his land with hemp, it would, on a fair calculation, put £100,000 in circulation annually among us. I appeal then to the good sense of this Company, whether those are not strong and liberal inducements held out to us to learn and attend to the cultivation of hemp in Canada, and thus render it the mart for the English market. It is understood Cobourg will soon become a Government depot for hemp, under the Commissariat of Kingston; if then, to a ready money and handy market for our produce, we add the acquisition of mills to facilitate the dressing of the hemp, we must consider the former objections to its growth done away with, and the Newcastle District will first have the honor and advantage of establishing in the Canadas this valuable article of commerce.

Gentlemen, at another time it may be necessary for me to extend my observations on this important subject, and I will only notice for the present, that the expenses of preparing a field of wheat, or hemp, and harvesting them, are nearly the same. Where the hemp is mowed and not pulled, the extra trouble is in rotting, drying, and dressing the hemp; but while hemp is worth £50 the ton, and is not likely to be lower, the value of the produce will well repay the extra trouble, and with the addition of the seed, yield on an average nearly double the value of the wheat—the produce and pasturage of our rich meadow land can alone equal the return of a hempen crop.—In corroboration of the above statement, I have read you the reports of Messrs. Bethune, Ash, Brock, Burnham, Hinds, Hagerman, Mallory, and other new growers of hemp, now present, who upon an average, by their own avowal, raised at the rate of 1,500 weight of hemp on two

acres, and also seed to the amount of 10 bushels the acre; we may then all judge of the value of a crop of hemp to any extent. It gives me pleasure to have such satisfactory proof of the advantage of growing hemp on our lands.

I am willing to court and to answer any further enquiries on the subject, and for the present, gentlemen, will leave its merits and adoption to your future consideration.

THE END.

